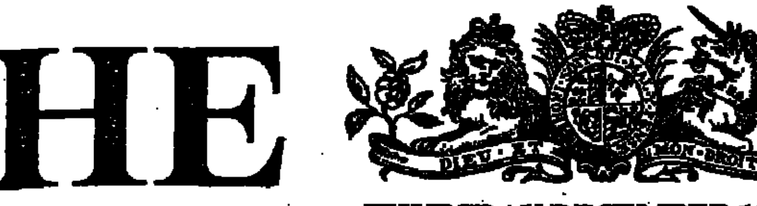
THE  TIMES

No 62,011 THURSDAY DECEMBER 13 1984 20p

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Sonia's story
The Italian girl who married Rajiv Gandhi and became part of an Indian dynasty

Living again
How the bereaved families and victims of the Harrods bomb have rebuilt their lives

Money talk
Last word on the City revolution from Walter B. Riston, retiring head of Citibank

Tartan Cheddar
Philip Howard sniffs out Britain's top cheese in Scotland

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was shared by two winners yesterday. Mr John Laws of Pimlico, London, and Miss Susan Cornish of Fremantle, Southampton, each received £1,000. Portfolio list, page 23; how to play, information service, back page.

EEC reveals car price strategy

EEC Commissioners have announced measures to ensure that from January 1 the price of similar models of cars does not vary by more than 12 per cent between Community countries. The ruling was welcomed by the Consumers' Association

Cuts 'conceded'

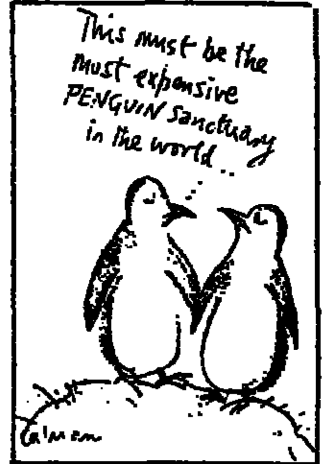
Mr John Cunningham, Labour's environment spokesman, said the Government had conceded rate support grant cuts of £117.8 million for 16 Conservative-controlled counties Page 2

Mauritania coup

President Haidalla of Mauritania, ousted in an overnight coup, arrived in Brazzaville, the Congo capital, from the Franco-African summit in Burundi.
Earlier story, page 6

Surplus schools

About 600 schools need to be closed by 1990 because of falling pupil numbers, the Audit Commission for Local Authorities said Page 3



Falklands doubt

Britain should adopt a more positive tone towards Argentina over the Falklands, the Commons foreign affairs committee said. But it failed to agree on both countries' legal claims Page 5

Boxing ban

The Boxing Board of Control will ban block bookings of dates and halls by promoters, a move which could change the structure of British boxing Page 24

Walker agrees to meet TUC team on pit peace talks

● Moves to end the miners' strike have resumed with the Government's agreement to meet TUC leaders today or tomorrow to discuss the dispute

● Local authorities have given large amounts of money to striking miners, including additions to social service assistance and donations to support groups (page 2)

● The old argument within the NUM about its constitution has been brought to a head by the Nottinghamshire moderates' "union within a union" move (page 2).

● Yesterday saw the first coal produced in Yorkshire since the dispute began. Production also began later at a second pit in the county (back page)

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

New moves to end the 40-week pit strike got under way last night after the Government agreed to meet a deputation of TUC leaders to talk about the dispute.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, is to meet the seven-member TUC liaison group, that has been monitoring developments in the strike today or tomorrow. He will come under pressure to "facilitate a resumption of negotiations between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers."

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, was in touch with Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, yesterday afternoon. He said afterwards: "There are a lot of ideas around, we shall be probing every good idea."

The board was unaware of the initiative until it was announced yesterday evening. Mr Michael Eaton, chief spokesman for the board reacted cautiously to the announcement, reiterating the board's formal negotiating position.

"If the TUC have persuaded the NUM to recognize the fact that the cost of production is a factor in colliery closures, then we have always expressed a willingness to talk," Mr Eaton said.

Privately, the board's managers remain to be persuaded that the miners have shifted from their hard-line strategy

However, the TUC team believes that there is scope for a resumption of negotiation, based on the miners' union's formula that the board should recognize that it cannot carry out its original intention to shut down four million tonnes of capacity in the current financial year, which ends on March 1.

Instead of withdrawing the pit closure programme, the miners argue that the board should "not proceed" with it, and should make future colliery shutdowns consistent with the provisions of the 1974 *Plan for Coal*.

At the end of their five-hour meeting yesterday the TUC group reaffirmed its determination to help in finding a negotiated settlement and, in line with that, had arranged an "urgent meeting" with Mr Walker "at which the TUC representatives will press the Government to do everything open to them to facilitate a resumption of negotiations between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers".

But if bilateral talks between the miners and the board do take place as a result of the latest initiative the TUC will not supervise the detailed conduct of the talks.

The board was somewhat taken aback by the TUC's going over its head directly to the minister responsible for the coal industry, but if there is any serious prospect of the union making sufficient concessions to restart negotiations, the board will pocket its pride and go back into direct discussions with miners' leaders.

The miners' union national executive meeting in Sheffield today will be given a report on the latest steps to restart the peace process. Mr Scargill is expected to be absent, appearing in court in Rotherham to answer a charge of obstruction remaining from the days of the mass pickets at Orgreave coking plant in South Yorkshire.

The executiv will also consider the result among 30,000 union members in Nottinghamshire, who are voting overwhelmingly for a new area constitution that remove them from the authority of the national union leadership.

Stores to stay shut on Sunday

By Staff Reporters

Debenhams and the Habitat Mothercare group yesterday dropped their plans to open stores in England and Wales on the two Sundays left before Christmas.

Debenhams said it had been influenced by the Prime Minister's unequivocal statement in the Commons this week condemning moves before Parliament had dealt with the Auld Committee's recommendations that Sunday trading should be allowed.

Debenhams added that it wanted to protect employees against "unprecedented" legal moves threatened by some local authorities against its stores.

The local authorities had applied for injunctions to stop the proposed Debenhams openings. The applications, due to be heard tomorrow, were by Guildford, Nuneaton, Bedford, Nottingham, Derby, Plymouth, Chelmsford, Norwich, Southampton and Ipswich.

Sir Terence Conran of Habitat Mothercare said last night that his group would cease Sunday trading to stop the issue from becoming "a political weapon". He expected "a prompt response by the Government", however.

Labour NEC backs study of Militant

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party's centre-right was claiming victory over the left last night after the ruling national executive committee demonstrated by a clear majority its support for a further examination of the activities of the Militant Tendency.

The party is likely next month to establish a working party to study the extent of the influence of the Militant and other fringe organizations in the party and produce a document highlighting the ideological differences between them and Labour.

The move, backed by Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Roy Hattersley, was seen last night as the start of a new ideological battle against Militant, a tacit admission that the attempts to curb its influence by individual expulsions cannot succeed.

But the left last night was quick to point out that the proposed study was not an inquiry in the organizational sense and was not the so called "purge" many rightwingers wanted.

At the NEC a motion calling for a general inquiry was withdrawn by agreement, and subsituted with the motion, in the name of Mr Ken Cure, chairman of the party's appeals and mediation committee, to set up a working party.

It was agreed that the motion should go before the appropriate NEC committee for discussion next month, after the left failed by 18 votes to shelve it altogether, a vote cited by the centre-right as proving a strong desire for further action on Militant.

A comfortable majority is expected both in committee and the full NEC next month for the study, which is likely to be completed by Easter.

It supporters believe that by showing graphically how the tendency operates, and how its objectives differ so radically from Labour's, local parties can be encouraged to out-manoeuvre, out-organize and ultimately defeat them. Mr Kinnock told the NEC its aim would be to educate the party.

The NEC also went close to backing a motion which would effectively have committed the next Labour Government to reinbursing the NUM for fines incurred as a result of legal actions againt it by its own members.

At the urging of Mr Kinnock, the motion was referred to the party's home policy committee for discussion, by 15 votes to 13.

Exodus of fear from Bhopal

From Trevor Fishlock, Bhopal

Thousands of people fled in an "exodus of fear" from this disaster city yesterday, frightened by plans to make its killer chemical plant safe.

They crammed into buses, trains and cars. Last night there were long lines of vehicles at petrol pumps.

"This is an exodus of fear," said Mr Raj Singh, a factory secretary. "People are stunned by disaster. They do not trust anyone in authority.

"The place is full of rumours. People are helpless and you cannot blame them for wanting to run."

Their fear sprang from the announcement that part of the Union Carbide chemical plant will go into temporary production from Sunday, so that 15 tonnes of the deadly gas that killed at least 2,000 and injured more than 50,000 can be made safe.

The authorities say there is no danger, and no need to evacuate. Mr Arjun Singh, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, said he would demonstrate his confidence by being in the plant when the operation starts.

Even so, the authorities have said they will provide transport and camps for people who wish to leave.

● Unconfirmed reports are circulating in Bhopal that chemical warfare experts have arrived in the city to study the after effects of the lethal gas (Our Foreign Staff writes).

An Agence France Presse report quotes unnamed sources as saying the experts – from the United States, West Germany, Britain and Canada – are genuine doctors involved in defence research.

● SHEFFIELD: Eight people last night were barricaded in an office of Union Carbide's British headquarters here in a protest over "the activities of all multinationals".

Police let the protesters stay after they undertook not to cause damage and said they would leave today.

● WASHINGTON: Union Carbide's methyl isocyanate plant in West Virginia was pronounced safe yesterday by a union official and the head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

French connection in Mirror ownership

By Philip Robinson and William Kay

The ultimate ownership of Mirror Group Newspapers, for which Mr Robert Maxwell paid £100 million in July, is now in French hands. The true proprietor is the family interests of Mr Maxwell's French wife, Elizabeth.

Mr Maxwell has argued strongly that he is merely the publisher of MGN whose titles include the *Daily Mirror* and *Sunday Mirror, Sunday People* and *Sporting Life*. The *Daily Mirror* has "Forward with Britain" included in its masthead.

On the front page of the first issue after Reed International sold MGN to Mr Maxwell, he was described as both publisher and proprietor.

Mr Maxwell took control of MGN after making two offers to Reed International. Reed had intended to float MGN as a separate company on the Stock Exchange under the chairmanship of Mr Clive Thornton, former head of the Abbey National Building Society.

Mr Maxwell's successful £100 million offer was made through his Pergamon Press Ltd, a private family company whose parent is the Liechtenstein-registered Pergamon Holding Foundation. Under company rules the Liechtenstein authorities are not obliged to disclose the ownership of companies registered

However, sources close to Mr Maxwell have confirmed that the foundation owners are Mrs Maxwell's family interests. The connection goes back more than 10 years to when Mr Maxwell was involved in a takeover battle with the American company Leasco, then headed by Mr Saul Steinberg, the American financier. French ownership has been unearthed during another takeover battle, this time for John Waddington, maker of the Monopoly game.

Although Mr Maxwell conceded defeat of his £44 million takeover last night, Waddington has threatened to use British law to disenfranchise Mr Maxwell's 23 per cent stake in Waddington unless true ownership of the foundation is disclosed.

Robert and Elizabeth Maxwell: family interests

Maxwell defeat, page 17

Serene Lyons with her mother yesterday. (Photograph: John Voos).

Baby of 10 months gets pacemaker

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

The heart of a girl aged 10 months is beating normally with the help of the smallest electronic pacemaker implanted in Britain.

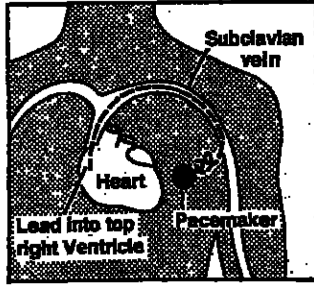
The operation was the third which the baby, Serene Lyons, had undergone. The first was to mend a defect in the aorta and the second to close a hole and repair a valve in other chambers of the heart.

When Serene's mother, Mrs Susan Lyons, brought her back to the Brompton Hospital, London, yesterday for a check-up, from their home in Herne Bay, Kent, Dr Elliott Shinebourne, paediatric cardiac consultant, described her progress as marvellous.

He called the operation to insert the pacemaker, perfected and performed by Dr David Ward, the hospital's senior registrar, a remarkable surgical development.

Dr Shinebourne said it was possible that as Serene's heart grew stronger it might be possible to do without the electronic aid.

Although small – 41mm by 62mm by 6mm thick and weighing 28 grams – it is not the pacemaker's size that is the main advance in treatment.



The innovation is the way in which the instrument is connected to the heart. In addition, it can be reprogrammed by radio control, should Serene need a different pattern of stimulus as she begins to toddle and then run about.

The usual method of connection is to make an incision through which the lead from the pacemaker is attached to the outside of the heart. Dr Ward used a surgically less intrusive procedure, but a much more intricate one in a baby.

He threaded the Teflon-coated silver wire, 3mm thick, through the subclavian vessel at the top of the arm into the right ventricle of the heart. A piece of the wire was protruding from its coating to penetrate the wall of the heart chamber.

Continued on back page, col 6

Police hold two as Durban sit-in ends

From Michael Hornsby, Durban

Three leading South African anti-apartheid campaigners left the haven of the British Consulate in Durban yesterday, where they sought refuge 91 days ago, and two of them were at once arrested and charged with high treason, an offence which carries a maximum penalty of death.

Mr Archie Gumede, an elderly African who is one of three national presidents of the United Democratic Front (UDF), a multi-racial alliance of opposition groups, and Mr Paul David, a senior member of the Natal Indian Congress (NIC) a UDF affiliate, were arrested inside the Barclays Bank Building in which the consulate is located.

Police officers were waiting for the two men as they stepped out of a lift on the ground floor. They were taken away through a side door into a cordoned-off back street out of sight of a crowd of several thousand people of all races calling for their release outside the main entrance.

The third member of the consulate sit-in, Mr Billy Nair, another senior NIC member, was allowed out, and was borne away on the shoulders of his supporters as the crowd, chanting "UDF, UDF" and waving clenched fists in the air, surged down the street after them, bringing late afternoon rush hour traffic to a halt.

They said they had whiled away their time "reading, playing cards and talking politics".

Permission for the three men to hold a press conference before their departure inside the consulate, a small suite of rooms on the seventh floor of the bank building was refused by the British Government, which has insisted throughout the sit-in that the consulate could not be used for propaganda purposes.

In a narrow corridor outside the consulate offices, Mr Gumede told journalists that the sit-in had drawn the world's attention "to circumstances under which the black people in South Africa live" and had exposed "the mechanics by which the state maintains its policies of repression".

Mr Nair said neither he or his colleagues were afraid of arrest. "We as freedom fighters are prepared to continue the struggle irrespective of the consequences", he said.

All three men complained of "the psychological warfare" used against them by the British Government, which had constantly put pressure on them to leave the consulate. They said, however, that conditions had been "bearable", despite their being kept in a single room.

Night ban on London juggernauts

By Colin Hughes

Juggernaut lorries are to be banned at night and weekends from the roads of Greater London, by what councillors claim is Britain's "biggest-ever traffic order".

The decision, taken yesterday, will come into force next June, unless the Government succeeds in forcing a public inquiry to challenge and prevent the move.

The ban includes all heavy goods vehicles of more than 16.5 tonnes in laden weight, effectively three-axle articulated lorries, except those which are granted an exemption licence.

Exemptions have been included mainly to enabel lorries carrying fresh food to deliver to markets.

The ban covers the 610 square miles of Greater London between 9pm and 7am, and from 1pm on Saturdays, except for a handful of major trunk roads which will remain open to heavy goods traffic.

At present the council estimates that more than 25,000 lorries use London streets at night because clearer roads mean they can move through the capital more quickly than in daylight. The ban is being imposed to ease the stress on at least 250,000 London residents who the council believe suffer regular sleep disturbance because of the din.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport, has said he will contest the decision. GLC lawyers have advised that councillors are within their powers to issue the order, but Mr Ridley believes he can force a public inquiry.

If he succeeds, the inquiry is likely to be brief, since the GLC has spent more than three years compiling evidence in support of the proposal.

Thatcher favours some ads on BBC

By Julian Haviland and David Hewson

The Prime Minister is in favour of advertising being carried on a limited number of BBC television and radio programmes, it was stated on her behalf yesterday.

The disclosure of what was said to be Mrs Margaret Thatcher's long-held view, was made, by apparent coincidence, on the day that the BBC opened a campaign to increase the annual colour television licence fee by more than 40 per cent to £65.

Within a few hours of the BBC's new target being made public, MPs were reporting telephone calls from constituents saying that the proposed increase was excessive. One Conservative MP said that reaction from his constituents suggested that the Government would be most unwise to allow the full increase.

Many Conservatives were preparing to urge the Prime Minister and Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, who has the formal responsibility, to examine closely recent increases in BBC staff levels and rates of pay.

Official sources yesterday stressed that the question of whether the BBC should advertise was not under consideration by Ministers, and would not be considered in the context of the present application for an increased licence fee. But the Cabinet's collective thinking more often than not tends to accord with the Prime Minister's opinions, which may therefore foreshadow the future shape of broadcasting.

Mr Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC, revealed yesterday that a £65 licence fee had been requested, at the start of a campaign to convince the public it was the best bargain in Britain.

The Government is unlikely to reach a decision until shortly before the present arrangement expires. The BBC's decision to go public will be frowned on by the Home Office. Traditionally, the licence fee negotiations take place in private, but Mr Young cited a speech by the Home Secretary, calling on broadcasters to justify themselves to the public, as evidence that an open compaign was warranted.

The corporation's openness will not extend to publishing the "value for money" survey of the BBC being carries out by outside accountants at the request of the Home Secretary.

Mr Young said that the survey, which was due to be delivered at the end of this month, might contain confidential material it would be inappropriate to make public. Four separate surveys were being carried out, of which the Peat Marwick investigation was one.

The BBC was aware the new licence fee might prove difficult for the needy, said Mr Young

Continued on back page, col 5

Tory shires also to lose rate support grants, Labour says

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr John Cunningham, Labour's environment spokesman, said yesterday that the Government had concealed rate support grant cuts of £117.8 million for 16 Conservative-controlled counties in Tuesday's statement to the Commons.

He said that the Tory shires would be faced with substantial rate increases or cuts in education and social services in 1985-86 as a direct result of the change.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, had tried to convey the impression, Mr Cunningham said, that the "so-called low-spending shire counties were being given preferential treatment" with higher spending targets.

But he added: "As a result of the substantial reduction in block-grant – over £600 million in real terms – very few councils will receive even the same in cash terms next year as they did in 1984-85."

It was declared government policy to burden the ratepayers with even greater rate bills as grant was cut back each year.

Mr Cunningham said: "The reward for Tory Surrey County Council – whose leading MP is Local Government Minister Kenneth Baker – if it spends at the Government's target for 1985-86, is a massive reduction of £15.7 million in cash terms, equivalent to a precept increase of 9p.

"The figure for Essex is a staggering £19 milliion loss of grant equivalent to an 8p county precept. For Berkshire, specially singled out in the statement yesterday, the loss of grant is £10.4 million, equivalent also to an 8p county precept."

Mr Cunningham's figures, confirmed by the Department of Environment last night, were (figures in millions of pounds):

County	Grant loss	84/85 grant	85/86 grant
Berks	10.4	55.927	45.538
Bucks	2.7	59.176	56.423
Cambs	2.9	79.084	76.115
Dorset	2	61.543	59.503
E Sussex	4.8	61.785	56.929
Essex	19	151.087	132.171
Gloucs	3.2	70.411	67 180
Hants	15.5	186.837	171.331
Hereford & Worcs		1.1	89.452
Herts	14	73.352	59.364
Kent	4 4	222.418	218.071
Oxon	10	49.753	39.730
Suffolk	3 6	78.645	75.075
Surrey	15.7	51.995	36.242
W Sussex	6.4	60.778	54.386
Wilts	2.1	87.438	85.335

Tory Oxfordshire enters cuts fray

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Oxfordshire yesterday became the first of several Conservative-led councils facing grant cuts to demand an explanation from the Government.

Mr Eric Bond, leader of the council, predicted a steep rate rise in the county next year and called for a meeting about it with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The Government issued figures on Tuesday which showed that several county councils faced cuts in government grant totalling more than £100 million. Oxfordshire is to be cut from £49 million to less than £40 million and Conservative-led Surrey from £50 million to £36 million.

But the Government omitted to issue its own calculations showing that the English shires would receive a smaller share next year than that of the total grant being paid by the Government towards council spending.

The calculations were attached to papers given to council representatives on the Consultative Council on Local Government Finance. But the version of the papers which was later made public did not include the calculations.

Mr Bond made clear that Oxfordshire councillors had been stung by Mr Jenkin's claim on Tuesday the "our undertakings to the shires have been met to the letter". Conservatives have a majority of three on the council. Like other shire counties, Oxfordshire will hold elections next May.

Mr Bond said it was unfair that so much grant should be cut from his council, which had always kept inside government spending limits. "This contradicts Mr Jenkin's claim that people will be delighted with the Government's attempts to control rates."

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities estimated that 29 of 39 shire counties would lose Government grant from the rate-support grant settlement announced by ministers on Tuesday.

Shares of government grant to English councils (%)

	Shires	London	Other metro-politan areas
1979	53.4	17.0	29.6
1980	53.6	16.7	29.7
1981	54.4	15.8	29.8
1982	53.3	17.1	29.6
1983	53.4	16.1	30.5
1984	53.3	16.0	30.7
1985	52.8	15.0	32.2

Source: Government papers.

Parliament, page 4

Drivers defy fog alert as crash inquiry opens

By David Cross

The M25 around London, scene of the multiple crash on Tuesday, was still being treated yesterday by some car and lorry drivers as a race-track, despite fresh warnings by traffic authorities to take special care in the fog.

Surrey and Kent police reported that a minority of motorists were driving too fast in poor visibility within a few miles of the scene near Limpsfield where rescue services were clearing the charred remains of 22 vehicles and their occupants, including nine heavy-goods vehicles.

Surrey police, who yesterday launched an inquiry into the accident, said that occasional fires had broken out as pieces of wreckage were removed.

The final toll last night stood at nine or 10, but the police said that most of the victims were so badly burnt and mutilated that they were unidentifiable.

In their efforts to name the dead, the authorities were having to use vehicle licence plate numbers to get in touch with families for details of how many occupants were likely to have been in each vehicle at the time of impact. No names were released.

However, the debris had been cleared and repairs were being made to the road surface in time for an anticipated reopening this morning of the closed section between junctions five and six.

The investigation into the crash, details of which are being sent to Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, will focus on a number of factors, not least the disclosure by the police that warning amber lights near the crash site were off at the time of the accident.

According to the Meteorological Office in Bracknell, dense and patchy fog in the Kent and Surrey areas had not been anticipated until 5.25 am, when the AA was in touch with their forecasting bureau.

The warning was transmitted routinely by the London Weather Centre and reached Kent police headquarters at 5.51 am. By the time it reached all Kent police stations at 6.18 am the crash had occurred.

As the dense patches of fog still clung to many parts of central and eastern England, the catalogue of traffic accidents continued to rise.

In the worst incident, two members of the pop group, Bucks Fizz, were yesterday undergoing hospital surgery after their coach was involved in a head-on collision with a lorry on the Great North Road on the outskirts of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mike Nolan and Cheryl Baker were having glass removed from their backs and legs. Two other singers, Bobby Gee and Jay Aston, were able to return to their hotel after hospital treatment.

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PRESENT LIST

"What do we give Aunty? She has such EXTRAVAGANT tastes!"

'Corpse in the library' dispute

By David Nicholson-Lord

Corpse-snatching assumed a bizarre new dimension in Plymouth yesterday when a local painter steadfastly refused to hand over the body of a dead tramp so that the health authorities could give him a decent British burial.

In a plot more reminiscent of a Hammer film than an arcane bureaucratic wrangle, Mr Robert Lenkiewicz wants the tramp, Mr Edwin McKenzie, embalmed, coated in acrylic and displayed naked in his library as a *memento mori* and a reminder of life's great mysteries.

Mr McKenzie, who was befriended by Mr Lenkiewicz and named Diogenes because he lived in a barrel on a rubbish tip, died six weeks ago at the age of 72. Mr Lenkiewicz envisages his future role as "something like a large paperweight."

Plymouth City Council, however, is having none of it. It has invoked the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act, 1984, taken counsel's opinion and is threatening Mr Lenkiewicz with legal action.

Mr Michael Fox, the city's environmental health officer, said yesterday: "Mr Lenkiewicz assures us that displaying corpses in people's homes is a custom around the world, in places like Mexico or Italy. But this in not Mexico or Italy. This is Plymouth."

The affair has attracted considerable publicity and is regarded as an important test of what the Act means by "suitable arrangements" for the disposal of bodies. Mr Fox described it as "unique" and said he hoped the dispute would go to the courts so that the law could be clarified.

The miners' strike

Union faces federation battle

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The move by moderate miners in Nottinghamshire to set up a "union within a union" has brought to a head the long-running argument within the National Union of Mineworkers about whether it is a single union or a federation.

When it was formed out of the old Mining Federation of Great Britain, in 1944, it was intended to act as an industrial un union "to secure the complete organization in the union of all workers employed in or connected with the mining industry of Great Britain."

But the 20 "constituent associations", mostly coalfield areas of the union, continued to be unions in their own right and to have funds of their own. They still submit annual returns to the Certification Officer and jealously guard their "independence" from the national union.

The union's rule book makes clear that it's 26 aan national executive committee has "overriding authority" over the areas, and in a section laying down rules for the areas, it states: "In any matter in which there is a conflict between the rules of the constituent association and the national union, the rules of the national union shall apply."

Rule 30 of the national book insists: "The decisions of the national executive committee on all matters and business which it undertakes or transacts under the union's rules and constitution shall be binding". The only way this authority can be overruled is by an appeal to the union's annual conference or a special delegate conference.

In practice, however, the areas have regularly defied the national executive committee without being called to book, and the only time this state of affairs has been tested in court, the judge found in favour of the areas.

That was in 1977, when the right-wing South Derbyshire and Leicestershire areas decided to defy the result of a national ballot and negotiate with the National Coal Board at area level for the introduction of incentive bonus schemes. They were subsequently followed by all the other areas.

However, until the Nottinghamshire area chose this week to seek the approval of its members for a new constitution that would effectively make the coalfield *de jure* as well as *de facto* independent of the national executive, no area had attempted to enshrine that relationship in its rules.

● Cash spent on the miners' strike was fully authorized by the union, Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, for the Derbyshire Area National Union of Mineworkers and three of its officials, told a High Court judge in London yesterday. He was opposing a move by two working miners who want a court order requiring the three to personally repay £1.7 million already spent on the strike.

● Mr Bill Paynter, former president and general secretary of the South Wales NUM, has died aged 81.

● Coal reserves estimated at 180 million tonnes have been discovered on the Nottinghamshire-Lincolnshire border. A five-year exploration programme, involving 89 boreholes in the 100 square miles within the Newark, Lincoln and Tuxford areas, has found evidence of seven coal seams

Little prospect of Britain expanding coal exports

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

There is little prospect of Britain expanding its coal industry through exports, according to a new study issued by the Institute of Directors, which shows that there are enough economically recoverable coal reserves in the free world to sustain current production for another 235 years.

The study, prepared by Mr Kenneth Baylis of RTZ Oil and Gas, also shows that there are no signs of demand increasing from the world steelmakers or other industrial users.

Mr Baylis adds: "Current overcapacity in coal production provides assured and relatively low cost supplies to coal importers. At the same time the present overcapacity, especially of coking coal, is of serious concern to coal producers who invested considerable sums in the expectation that overseas demand would continue to grow rapidly.

The report suggests that European coal consumers will increasingly turn to imports from Australia, Canada, South Africa and South America, and adds that coal-handling facilities could be improved at certain ports.

Because of improvements in steel-making technology and increased use of plastics and alloy steels, the report adds, "There are few grounds for thinking that coking coal exports will do more than stagnate in the 1990s."

Councils aid striking miners

By Paul Vallely

Substantial amounts of money have been given by local authorities to striking miners, ranging from extensions of social services to donations to support groups.

The greatest burden to ratepayers has been produced by district councils responsible for education and social services in strike strongholds such as Yorkshire and South Wales.

Barnsley calculates that it has spent £75,000 a week in extra services for strikers families.

The current total is £1.4 million which includes £271,000 in extra rate and rent rebates, £455,000 for the increased numbers eligible for free school meals and £332,000 in weekly £10 food vouchers to the parents of children who would otherwise have to be taken into local authority care.

Other local authorities have made donations to hardship funds. They include: Tyne and Wear County Council, £200,000; South Yorkshire County Council, £100,000; Strathclyde Regional Council, £50,000; Chesterfield Borough Council, £50,000; Glasgow City Council, £30,000; Bolsover District Council, £18,000; Lothian Regional Council, £10,000; Dyfed County Council, £10,000; Kirkaldy District Council, £8,000; Dunfermline District Council, £2,000; Dinefwr Borough Council, £1,500.

Many other councils have given extra free school meals or food parcels during school holidays.

Doncaster Borough Council has extended the facilities it offers to all children eligible for free meals. More than 6,000 of these 17,000 pupils are the children of striking miners. The council has allocated £85,000 to provide each child, with a £5 food voucher for the 11-day Christmas break.

It is also spending £1,000 on bringing a circus out of its winter quarters to perform for the children and is allocating them 150 free seats at every performance of *Dick Whittington* at the Doncaster Civic Theatre.

Derbyshire County Council has spent £233,000 during the strike on providing a food parcel with an average value of £3 every week for every child in families living on less than the minimum social security benefit level.

Leeds City Council has paid £43,600 to finance free meals during school holidays and a further £24,600 for food for under fives. Nottinghamshire County Council has given £21,000 to miners' wives support groups and to organizations providing food parcels.

West Glamorgan County Council found £9,500 to make up parcels of tinned foods for the South Wales NUM members.

Free or concessionary admission to sports and leisure centres for striking miners and families has been authorized by Gwent, Kirkcaldy, Chesterfield and West Glamorgan authorites. Rent-free premises for strike committees or wives' support groups have been allocated in Bassetlow and Chesterfield, where council telephones are also available for the support committees.

Strikers in Bolsover can get free council saunas. In Glasgow, the city council has paid for 1,100 pantomime tickets for strikers' families to see *The Sleeping Beauty*.

In Warrington, striking miners, along with anyone else who cannot afford to pay gas or electricity bills, can obtain an interest-free loan.

There is even a facility for strikers to water-ski. South Yorkshire County Council will allow access to two of its water sports centres for half price at certain times of the day.

Healey decides to stand for reselection

By Our Political Correspondent

Mr Denis Healey has decided that he will stand for reselection as Labour candidate for Leeds East at the next general election.

The former deputy Labour leader, who is 67, has reudiated weekend press reports that he intends to retire from politics at the next election. He has told friends that he would still like to be Foreign Secretary in the next Labour government.

Mr Healey was challenged by a hard-left opponent in the last reselection process but won the contest without difficulty, and it is thought possible that he might be returned unopposed in the forthcoming reselection round.

His decision to stay on reflects a strong confidence in the party.

Tories braced for slump in Enfield majority

Conservative Party managers last night braced themselves for a dramatic slump in support in today's Enfield, Southgate, by-election, although they believed they had contained a late surge by the Liberal-SDP Alliance.

After a frantic final day's canvassing by both main camps, Alliance strategists were saying privately that the winning margin for either party would be no more than 2,000.

The Tories were resigned to seeing their 15,800 general election majority cuty by at least half, but they remained confident of holding the seat, unless there was a very low turnout or a last-minute collapse of the Labour vote.

All three parties were agreed that the turn-out is likely to be between 50 and 55 per cent

BMA bans doctors' aid in drawing up drugs list

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The executive of the British Medical Association yesterday ordered doctors to refuse to help health ministers to draw up a limited list of drugs for National Health Service use.

In an unprecedented move, the executive said: "Doctors should not enter into discussion with the health departments on proposals to limit prescribing by regulation".

Family doctors' leaders have already refused to negotiate over the limited list, and the BMA's council is now being asked to approve an approach by the association as a whole to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, to discuss other ways of cutting the health service drugs bill. But a BMA spokesman said: "We will not be discussing a limited list".

Letters have gone to all 29,000 family doctors urging them to write to MPs and ministers about the Government's proposals, and to urge their patients to do the same.

Dr John Marks, chairman of the BMA council, said: "I do not believe it is possible to compile a national list which will not cause confusion to patients and damage in some cases". The association was happy to see doctors agreeing a limited local lists which could be over-ridden when a patient had particular needs.

The BMA believed the proposal was contrary to the spirit of the NHS Act, which said that a comprehensive service should be provided.

Radiation linked to insulation

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Better insulated houses result in a greater exposure to the population in general from the naturally occurring radioactive gas radon, according to the National Radioactive Protection Board.

Radon gas has increased to 32 per cent simply because buildings increasingly have ventilation systems which allow the gas to accumulate. The recognized hazard of radon is to miners of uranium and some other ores, and, to a lesser extent, coal miners.

The conclusion is contained in the latest assessment of all sources of radiation to which people are exposed: natural background radiation from cosmic rays and that emitted by rocks in the grounds, medical X-rays, occupational doses at nuclear power stations and waste treatment plants.

The chances of death from those forms of natural radiation are still small, compared with the chances of dying from accidents in the home or on the roads, or from smoking.

A measurement is also made of the "internal" exposure, or the dose which we give ourselves from substances like potassium-40, rubidium-87, and substances belonging to the uranium and thorium series of elements, all of which may be swallowed with food or inhaled.

When the grand total is made of all the sources, the figure is divided by 54 million to work out the average dose to each member of the population.

Since the last survey was made six years ago, there have been large changes in the proportions received of the different types of radiation, particularly of medical X-rays.

A section of the survey, examining the high-risk groups who live near the Sellafield reprocessing plant in Cumbria, and those who work there and at nuclear power stations, concludes that tighter measures to control emissions are working.

RADIATION: WHERE IT COMES FROM
Source: National Radiological Protection Board

NATURAL 87%
INTERNAL 17%
GAMMA RAY 19%
RADON 32%
COSMIC 14%
Medical 11.5%
5% THORON
Fallout 0.5%
Miscellaneous 0.5%
Occupational 0.4%
Nuclear discharges 0.1%
Artificial 13%

Five men on badger hunt lose appeals

Five men found guilty of hunting for badgers in a Derbyshire wood lost their appeals yesterday against the main convictions against them.

The men, all members of terrier dog clubs, were convicted by Alfreton magistrates in Derbyshire last May after the Derbyshire Naturalists Trust took out a private prosecution.

Derby Crown Court was told that they had been found at a badger sett at Shining Cliff Woods, near Ambergate, with spades and a Land Rover equipped with a steel cage.

The judge dismissed their appeal against a conviction under Section 1 of the Badgers Act, 1973, but their appeal against a conviction under Section 2 of the Act, relating to physically digging for a badger, was allowed on the ground of insufficient evidence.

Four of the men, who had been fined a total of £800 each, had their fines reduced to £250 each. They were: Philip Harrison, aged 31, of Bradford, and Kevin Baines, aged 30, of Stanton Hill, Paul Cartwright, aged 43, of Calverton, and Lewis Edwards, aged 38, of Huthwaite, all in Nottinghamshire.

The fifth man, David Morris, aged 22, of Alfreton, had been conditionally discharged and his discharge is to stand. Each of the men was ordered to pay £100 towards the trust's costs.

Low penalties for driving offenders criticized

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Slavish adherence by magistrates to sentencing guidelines on road traffic offences was criticized yesterday by Mr Geoffrey Norman, secretary of the Magistrates' Association.

Careless driving, for example, he said, covered a wide range of offences, from a momentary lapse of concentration that could happen to anyone to a deliberate piece of driving with serious consequences, verging on the reckless.

Yet magistrates were unwilling to impose sentences that departed greatly from those proposed by the association as the average penalty for a first offender of average means. That is £60 and an endorsement.

Mr Norman, who was addressing a conference in London on sentencing, said there could be "no justification for penalties in that kind of case being so low unless it was on the ground of the means of the defendant".

By contrast, he said, the policy of the magistrates at Grays, Essex, last Christmas in sentencing drunken drivers to a few days in police custody had been remarkably effective.

The association's guidelines for an offence of the kind that was dealt with by the Grays magistrates was a £120 fine and obligatory disqualification from driving. But the magistrates there were dealing with offenders who had previously offended or were above twice the legal alcohol limit.

"The association does not approve or disapprove of this policy", he said. "We simply say that it is consistent with our guidelines."

Farmer to sue chemical plant over toxins

By Ronald Faux

The Stirlingshire farmer who complained of disease and abnormalities in his cattle kept near the Re-Chem Plant at Bonnybridge is to sue the company for more that £2 million in damages.

Mr Andrew Graham, aged 51, said yesterday that a report on milk samples taken from one of his cattle by an independent toxicologist in Germany showed traces of Dioxin, a substance said to be 170,000 times more toxic than cyanide and other toxins.

The report said the results indicate serious environmental conditions. Mr Graham claims that the dioxins were released in emissions from the smoke stacks.

But the Scottish Office has consistently maintained that there is no danger to people living in the area.

Scrutiny on Whitehall handling of funds

By David Walker Social Policy Correspondent

The Government has commissioned its top accountant, Mr Tony Wilson, recently recruited from the private sector at a salary double that of a Civil Service permanent secretary, to conduct a detailed study of how Whitehall budgets public money.

Mr Wilson, head of the Government Accountancy Service, will lead a team of officials examining the progress within various departments in putting into operation the Financial Management Initiative unveiled by the Prime Minister in 1982. They are due to report next July.

The Government announce yesterday that it will also tighten management within Whitehall by setting up a Joint Management Unit, operated by the Treasury and the Management and Personnel Office, to scrutinize administration.

The ultimate aim is to combine new measures of efficiency in Whitehall with the annual process, masterminded by the Treasury, of sharing our money between departments. The new unit replaces the Financial Management Unit.

Strike-free yard wins £50m order

By Edward Townsend and Ronald Faux

A French-owned oil rig yard on Clydebank in Scotland, formerly part of the John Brown engineering group, has won a £50 million order from the United States which could mean 500 new jobs.

The order, won by UIE (Scotland), a subsidiary of the Paris-based Bouygues Offshore company, was awarded by Transworld Drilling of Oklahoma after union officials at the yard wrote to Transworld saying there had been no strikes for 12 years and that workers would do their utmost to maintain the record.

The strike-free record was a very significant factor in winning the contract, according to Mr Joe Craig, the UIE managing director.

The Marathon "Gorilla" class rig, due for delivery in June 1986, will be among the largest of its type in the world.

Only two other "Gorilla" rigs have been built, one in the US and the other in Singapore; the United Kingdom order was won in the face of competition from previous builders.

Defence costs up by £2.4bn

Changes made by ministers to proposals in Sir John Nott's review of 1981 have added over £2.4 billion to defence spending.

That figure was given yesterday by Sir Clive Whitmore, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, in evidence to the House of Commons Defence Committee.

It excludes the increased cost of the Trident nuclear missile. It also excludes the costs of the Falkland Islands.

Despite the £2.4 billion increase in non-Falkland spending and that from 1986 the Government is assuming there will be no real growth in defence spending, Sir Clive insisted that there would be no need for a new review.

New technology dispute at paper

More than 60 members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) at *The News*, Portsmouth's evening paper, stopped work yesterday after sub-editors were suspended for refusing to co-operate with new technology plans.

Meanwhile a top-level meeting between the NUJ and the National Graphical Association (NGA), called to solve the dispute and work out a joint approach to new techniques throughout the industry, was adjourned without agreement until Monday.

The NUJ members at *The News* stopped work after a woman sub-editor was sent home for refusing to use a visual display terminal.

Meals staff cut

Gloucestershire's 1,150 school meals staff are being made redundant in the first stage of a plan to cut the £1 million school meals subsidy in favour of a self-financing service.

Wildlife killed

Hundreds of fish and water birds were killed yesterday when about 1,000 gallons of petrol from a riverside oil terminal leaked into the River Don at Oxspring, near Sheffield.

Man dies in fire

Mr Handel Evans, aged 73, died on Tuesday night in an attempt to save his pet canary when his home in Elgin Road, Pwll, Llanelli, South Wales, caught fire.

The Times overseas selling prices

600 schools must close to save money and standards, auditors say

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Hundreds of schools in England and Wales need to be closed by the end of the 1980s in line with falling pupil numbers, otherwise the quality of education will suffer and ratepayers will be footing an unnecessarily large bill.

The warning is in a report published today from the Audit Commission for Local Authorities, an independent body set up two years ago to improve local government economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The commission says that the price of doing nothing about non-teaching costs in secondary schools is unacceptably high, and about 600 schools should be closed to prevent ratepayers from paying between £100 million and £200 million a year to keep open buildings which are not needed.

It points out that because of a fall in the birthrate in the mid-1970s, there are already 500,000 surplus places in secondary schools in England and Wales, and the figure could exceed one million by the end of the decade.

Local authorities should consider closing new schools, those built in the 1960s and 1970s, if they are to reach the target set by the Department of Education and Science of removing two of every five surplus places.

That would mean between 90 and 120 closures a year between now and the end of the decade, a marked increase in the average of about 50 over the past six years.

The report says that between £100 million and £150 million a year could be saved, excluding the cost of teachers, on the calculation that the cost of a place in a secondary school is £230 a year at 1983-84 prices.

This includes interest savings from the sale of surplus land and buildings, offset partly by the increased cost of school transport.

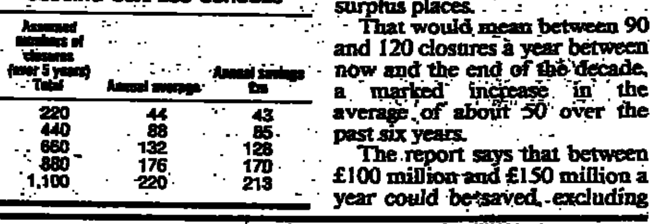
The commission, which is asking all its auditors to look at what each local authority is doing about school closures, says that because closing schools is so painful many councils are adopting an ostrich-like attitude

It recommends that each new council review its secondary school capacity and that the Secrertary of State for Education and Science does not turn down reorganization proposals from local authorities except in exceptional circumstances.

As it is, Sir Keith Joseph has rejected 29 per cent of proposals to close schools since 1983,

The report points out that most proposals by local authorities to close schools are made not on economic but on educational grounds, when councils cannot afford to provide teachers

Obtaining Better Value in Education: Aspects of Non-Teaching Costs in Secondary Schools (Stationary Office, £4.20).



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CLOSING SURPLUS SCHOOLS

Assumed numbers of closures (over 5 years) Total	Annual average	Annual savings £m
220	44	43
440	88	85
660	132	128
880	176	170
1,100	220	213

SECONDARY SCHOOL ROLLS 1981-1986
England only ('000 pupils)

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
Potential surplus places on Jan 1	367	568	640	748	861	899
Taken out of use (cumulative)						
– actual	35	70	120			
– planned	40	93	150	222	292	357

'Homework concept out of date'

By Our Education Correspondent

The amount of homework given to pupils and the time taken by conscientious pupils to do it can lead to excessive tiredness, according to the National Association of Head Teachers.

In a document published today the association, which has 20,500 members, adds that homework is in part something handed down from public and grammar schools to all schools, as a way of "keeping children occupied" or "passing the time", albeit usefully.

On the plus side, it argues that homework can be a good way of reinforcing what has been learnt in school, and that it is important for young people to learn to work on their own, develop self-discipline and study skills.

The association's comments come in response to the discussion paper from the Department of Education and Science on the curriculum for five to 16-year-olds which said policies must be established for homework so that is can most effectively help pupils to progress faster.

The association comments that homework is a constant source of discussion, friction and argument. References to it by local and national politicians are sometimes uninformed or unhelpful.

On the negative side, many children dislike the amount and nature of their homework. "Many avoid doing homework, or do it on buses, at breakfast or while watching television."

Many resent having so much homework at secondary age

● Comprehensive schools are criticized by school inspectors for failing to encourage pupils to talk, to develop arguments and articulate ideas. The criticism comes in their review of the reports they have written on schools between January 1983 and May 1984.

Primary schools give children a limited range of written work, concentrate too much on computation at the expense of practical work in mathematics and provide little experimental work in science, according to the review.

Campaign for clarity clearly succeeding

By Michael Horsnell

Written English is getting plainer, notwithstanding the smoky obfuscations which continue to darken the corridors of form-riddled bureaucratic life as we know it in Britain.

That is the opinion of Mr John Ward, a National Consumer Council executive, who announced yesterday the Plain English Campaign's annual awards.

The campaign's five-year operation to remove gobbledegook from the language appears to be succeeding, for not only were the Golden Bull boody-prize winners yesterday less amusing than usual but among the six recipients of awards for plain English were two government ministers representing departments once the Amit Sallies of obfuscation hunters.

Miss Julie Walters, the actress, needed none of the skills of an "educated Rita" in deciphering the plain from the obscure when she presented the awards at the Waldorf Hotel, London.

Mr Timothy Renton, Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, received his plain English award on behalf of the Central Office of Information for an illuminating leaflet to holidaymakers about the uses of British consuls.

Mr Peter Morrison, Minister of State at the Department of Employment, received his for the Manpower Services Commission's helpful guide on spnsored training. It was, he said, a far cry from his early days as a minister, when civil servants presented him with the following briefing:

"There is no need to amend section 4A of the 1964 Act to supply the four new subsections introduced by subsection 2 of the Bill to replace subsection 2 of section 7 because subsection 4 of section 4A already refers back to subsection 2-6 of section 7 However . . . etc."



Photograph: John Voos

Plainly pleased: Miss Julie Walters preparing to release a cloud of "hot-air" balloons before the awards ceremony.

Teacher tells court he never supplied drugs to his pupils

A schoolteacher accused of selling drugs to teenagers told a crown court jury yesterday that he had sometimes smoked "a joint" of cannabis in a park during school lunchbreaks, but had never taken drugs on school premises.

Richard Catherwood, aged 39, added: "I have never supplied a schoolchild under my care or in my control with any drug, ever."

Mr Catherwood, who has been suspened from his job as an Inner London Education Authority supply teacher since his arrest in June, was giving evidence at Inner London Crown Court on the third day of his trial.

Yesterday Mr Catherwood, of Melbourne Grove, East Dulwich, south London, was cleared of one of the charges against him, supplying cannabis resin, after Judge Suzanne Norwood instructed the jury that there was insufficient evidence.

He had denied a further six charges, including supplying and offering to supply LSD, cocaine and cannabis resin, and possessing controlled drugs with intent to supply.

He has pleaded guilty to three charges of supplying cannabis resin and unlawfully possessing LSD and cannabis. The offences are alleged to have taken place between January 1983 and June 1984.

The court has been told that Lee Sawyer, aged 16, fell to his death from a high-rise block of flats in East Dulwich and was found to have taken LSD before the incident. It has been alleged that Mr Catherwood supplied the drug he had taken.

Mr Catherwood told the jury yesterday that he had been educated at university in Belfast. He had three A levels and a Bachelor of Arts degree.

He had been a supply teacher of art in the south London Borough of Southwark from 1979 until his arrest.

Mr Catherwood said: "I am making no secret of the fact that I am a regular, and have been since I was 20 or 21, user of cannabis and have used on many occasions LSD. Cocaine is something I have tried

He said that had been before various courts on five occasions for drugs offences

During his early years he had been "wandering as a busker" but later settled down to a teaching career.

Mr Catherwood denied allegations by two boys who gave evidence that it was LSD supplied by him that caused Lee's death.

"Since they supplied acid (LSD) on their own admission to Lee Sawyer I can see them try ng to put it on someone else", he said.

Mr Catherwood said that when he heard that the boy had plunged from a balcony he was shocked. He had never heard of anyone jumping from a high place after taking LSD.

The hearing continues today.

Apology over cot death

A London coroner yesterday criticized the view that most cot death babies were killed by their parents, and apologized to a young mother for holding an inquest into the death of her baby daughter.

Joanna Fernandes, aged four months, died in her mother's bed after an early morning feed. Mrs Frances Fernandes, of Old Kent Road, south-east London, told, the court in Southwark that she had put Joanna in bed. When she woke up the baby was dead.

Dr Gordon Davies, the coroner, said that the vast majority of cot death babies were well looked after by loving parents.

He recorded a verdict of natural causes due to sudden infant death syndrome.

Thatcher rejects tax on new housing

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave an assurance yesterday to home owners and house builders that mortgage interest relief would continue and that the Government would not introduce value-added tax on new housing.

The Prime Minister speaking at the National House-Builders Council's annual lunch in London answered fears that mortgage relief might be reduced or abolished by saying that as long as she was Prime Minister or a member of the Conservative Government it would continue.

As for tax on new housing, she assured her audience that the Government had no plans to introduce it, as suggested by the EEC, and added: "We are resisting vigorously the commission's attack on zero-rating".

He also shared the concern of the builders for more land for building

The lunch was celebrating the fact that owner-occupation in the United Kingdom had reached 60 per cent. It is estimated at 63 per cent, and the Housing Research Foundation has suggested that home ownership in England could approach 80 per cent by the end of the century.

Mrs Thatcher said that a house was most people's biggest asset, but added that it was more than that. "It is a symbol of security."

Garages to get fairer AA symbols

The Automobile Association is dropping its spanner symbols in the new year. They have been used since 1968 to denote AA approved garages.

The spanners, which range from one to three, awarded this year to 4,300 garages, are being misinterpreted by motorists as symbols of workmanship rather than the intended meaning of facilities offered.

"This has resulted in an unfair reflection on the smaller, efficient garages", the AA said. Instead of spanners, a standard "AA Appointed" sign will be displayed outside garages.

Teacher charged with arson

Duncan McAndrew, aged 37, a teacher, was remanded in custody yesterday by magistrates at Colchester, Essex, charged with arson at Eight Ash Green Primary School, near Colchester.

Det Inspector Jeff Murray said that McAndrew, of Woodford End, Layer-de-la-Haye, was arrested on Tuesday morning hours after firemen put out a blaze which broke out while the headmaster, Mr John Hopkins, was holding a parent-teacher meeting.

Plan to ease redress for victims

Easier ways of compensating victims of crimes were proposed yesterday by the Home Affairs Select Committee.

Those suffering physical injury and deprived of any other redress should be able to seek compensation through the small claims court, the MPs say. The victim should be able to apply to the court's registrar to have his claim assessed with a view ot repayment out of Government funds.

House of Commons. First Report from the Home Affairs Committee, Session 1984-85. Compensation and Support for Victims of Crime. House of Commons Paper 43 (Stationery Office, £9.15p).

Government aid for wheel loss study denied

The Government is refusing to support a £70,000 investigation into the reasons for wheel losses on commercial vehicles, which cause an average of one accident a day

Road transport companies have put up £12,000 to launch two research projects on the losses, but they are unlikely to be completed without funding from the Department of Transport.

The department said last night: If we have one wheel coming off every 20,000 miles it is not worth putting thousands of pounds into research".

MP has second chest operation

Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, Conservative MP for Newbury, has undergone a second operation on a chest infection at Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

Mr. McNair-Wilson, aged 53, was operated on a week ago for a chest abscess caused by secondary infection during kidney failure earlier this year.

Novelist 'killed old blind woman who wanted to die'

A children's novelist quietly killed a blind and lonely woman, aged 83, who wanted to commit suicide, the Central Criminal Court heard yesterday.

Mrs Helen Hough, aged 59, provided her with certain tablets and placed a plastic bag over the woman's head when she did not die after several hours, Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said.

Mrs Hough allegedly told police: "I was tempted to leave her, hoping she would die. I waited about two hours but she was still breathing although deeply unconscious.

"I agonised and finally picked up this wretched plastic bag and put it over her head and held her hand."

She allegedly said the woman's breathing became distressed and she finally died.

The dead woman, Miss Anita Johnson Harding, of Fitzroy Road, Primrose Hill, had decided to commit suicide by a scheme suggested by Exit, the voluntary euthanasia society,

Mrs Helen Hough yesterday

Mr Amlot said. She left a suicide note saying she was taking her own life.

Mrs Hough, off Ivor Street, Regent's Park, pleaded not guilty to the murder of Mrs Harding on November 4 last year.

The trial continues today.

Court bans peer

The Earl of Shaftesbury, aged 46, of St Giles, Wimborne, Dorset, was fined £200 and banned from driving for 15 months at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, after he admitted driving his car having drunk excess alcbol.

Paper closes

The *Evening Post and Chronicle* newspaper in Wigan was published for the last time yesterday, but it was late reaching the streets because of industrial action by print workers. The paper lost about £500,000 this year.

Speed offence

Lou Macari, the manager of Swindon Town Football Club, was fined £80 and banned from driving for a week yesterday afer being convicted of driving on the M5 at 101 mph. The ban was lifted pending an appeal.

When British nuclear forces would count in arms negotiations

ARMS CONTROL

If, as is hoped, substantial progress is made in disarmament talks between Mr Shultz, the American Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, for substantial reductions in nuclear weapons, Britain would review the position of its own nuclear forces.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that at the conclusion of Commons exchanges about talks between Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition and the Soviet leadership, and about negotiations between the US and the USSR over nuclear weapons and military use of outer space.

Mr Luce said: We have consistently supported the United States in its willingness to negotiate, without preconditions, balanced and verifiable agreements on limiting nuclear weapons.

We therefore welcomed the announcement that Mr Shultz and Mr Gromyko are to meet in January. We firmly hope that that will lead to agreement on how to carry forward the process of negotiating arms control agreements covering both nuclear and outer space questions.

Mr Gerald Malone (Aberdeen, South, C): Does Mr Luce believe that the recent Soviet offer not to target this country with nuclear weapons, and to reduce the number of medium range nuclear weapons, secured by the Leader of the Opposition, is anything but helpful, and simply amounts to the United Kingdom renouncing all nuclear weapons unilaterally. It replaces real weapons with cardboard ones and that says all that needs to be said about Labour policy.

Mr Luce: Insofar as it is possible to *understand the offer of the Soviet* Union to Mr Kinnock – that in return for us renouncing our independent nuclear deterrent and getting rid of nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union would reduce proportionately, by the same number of weapons – that by comparison with the number of their weapons would be a tiny, a minimal reduction.

Mr Russell Johnston (Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber, L): Is the Government prepared to involve the independent British deterrent in such negotiations?

Mr Luce: The first thing, obviously, is that there is to be a preparatory meeting between Mr Shultz and Mr Gromyko with a view to discussing the parameters of how to review the whole question of nuclear weapons and arms activity in outer space That is the purpose of the meeting.

We hope that it will lead to discussions between the United States and the Soviet Union, which will lead in turn to a reduction in nuclear weapons.

The Foreign Secretary (Sir Geoffrey Howe) has repeatedly made clear that if there is clear evidence that both countries agree to substantial agree to substantial reductions in nuclear weapons and there is no increase in defence capability, we shall, of course, look at the situation of the British deterrent force.



Blaker: Ours equals 3% of Russian arsenal

Sir Peter Blaker (Blackpool, South, C): Will the minister be even more specific about the relationship between our deterrent and the size of the Soviet strategic force?

The size of our nuclear force represents less than 3 per cent of the Soviet arsenal and the proposal between Mr Kinnock and Mr Healey and President Chernenko means that we should surrender the whole of our arsenal in return for a reduction to 97 per cent by the Soviet Union. That would be ridiculous and positively dangerous.

Mr Luce: The British deterrent force is only 3 per cent of that of the Soviet Union's nuclear force. For the foreseeable future we see a need for retention of our nuclear deterrent, but if there are reductions we shall review the situation.

Mr Denis Healey, Chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs: Mr Luce is either badly briefed or did not read his brief. The fact is that the United States and Soviet Governments in January will discuss not only the abolition of weapons in space, but also a substantial reduction in offensive missiles, whether based in Europe or elsewhere, and that puts British and French nuclear forces in the middle of the argument.

Since the Conservative Government in the early 1970s agreed that British weapons would be counted in Salt I, for the present Prime Minister to oppose counting British weapons in the forthcoming negotiations is to present a severe obstacle to their conclusion.

Does he not feel a little embarassed when President Reagan and the Leader of the Opposition are talking to the Russians about arms control and the British Government refuses to engage in discussions?

Mr Luce: Mr Healey is talking nonsense (Conservative cheers). The position is clear, if Mr Gromyko and Mr Shultz can as a result of their preparatory meeting, get together to discuss nuclear weapons reductions and outer space we are talking about Soviet and United States nuclear systems.

He is not showing a sense of perspective. If there is substantial progress, we hope, and if there is agreement for substantial reductions, then would be the right moment for us to review the position of our forces.

Councils should meet targets

WELSH RATES

Local authorities might have to make difficult choices in determining their spending priorities in order to meet the targets being set by the Government, but those targets were achievable, **Mr Nicholas Edwards**, *Secretary of State for Wales, said in* the Commons when announcing the Welsh rate support grant settlement for 1985-86.

Aggregate exchequer grant would be £1,014.2 million and the amount available for distribution to local authorities was £810.6 million, he said.

He believed it was a fair settlement and owed much to the restraint exercised by a majority of Welsh local authorities. A small minority, however, persisted in spending in excess of their targets and he was, therefore, setting targets for 1985-86 and grant penalties for exceeding those targets.

If authorities showed they were on course to spend in line with the Government's plans for 1985-86 he was prepared to look at alternative means of containing expenditure and encouraging moderate rate increases in future years.

Mr Barry Jones, chief Opposition *spokesman on Wales (Alyn and* Deeside, Lab), said it was a harsh system and if local authorities did manage to get down to the targets it would be at the cost of the services provided to beleaguered communities. The settlement would guarantee social distress.

Mr Edwards, in his statement, said aggregate exchequer grants would be £1,014.2 million, comprising £149 million for specific grants, £26.5 million for transport supplementary grant, £2 million for national parks supplementary grant and £836.7 million for the rate support grants. Domestic rate relief was unchanged at 18.5p in the pound which cost *£25.5 million, leaving £811.2* million as block grant. After deducting £600,000 for payments to specified bodies the amount available for distribution to local authorities is £810.6 million.

The aggregate exchequer grant of £1,014.2 million is £18.2 million or 1.8 per cent more than the aggregate exchequer grant provision in the main rate support grant settlement for the current year; but far more important for rating purposes, it is almost £50 million or 5 per cent higher than the amount authorities have included in their budgets for the present year, after allowing for certain expenditure changes. It represents 67 per cent of relevant expenditure.

I believe the settlement is very fair, and the Welsh consultative council has acknowledged that it represents an improvement on last year. That this is so owes much to the restraint which has been exercised by a majority of Welsh local authorities.

There are, *unfortunately, a small* minority who persist in spending in excess of their targets. I confirm therefore that I am setting targets for 1985-86 and grant penalties for exceeding those targets. I have retained the same basic system for determining next year's expenditure targets as that used in the present year, but increased the weighting given to the grant related expenditure component.

The targets may require local authorities to make difficult choices in determining their spending priorities: but the targets, are, I believe, achievable by all authorities. *Every authority's target* gives a cash increase in its current expenditure: the minimum increase is 2 per cent and the maximum 4 per cent, after making allowance for the national insurance surcharge and further education changes.

In addition, for authorities spending at or below target in 1984-*85, I have added one-half of 1 per* cent to their current expenditure total. Thus the maximum current expenditure increase for such authorities is 4.5 per cent, in line with the projected rate of inflation for the economy as a whole.

In aggregate, the targets I am announcing today are £7.6 million higher than the provisional sum notified to authorities in the summer. The increase largely reflects the use of fixed interest rates, and a slightly lower assumption for council house rents.

The grant withholding penalty for local authorities spending in excess of targets has been strengthened. The amount of grant withheld for excess expenditure up to 1 per cent above target is 100 per cent of that excess but above that level the rate of holdback increases to a maximum rate of 150 per cent for authorities spending 2 per cent or more above target.

This compares with a maximum of 90 per cent in the current year reached at 5 per cent spending above target. I am retaining the arrangements under which any authority spending at or below target is exempted from both grant holdback and the close-ending adjustment.

The incentive for local authorities with low rateable resources to achieve their targets has, in the past, been considerably reduced because I placed a limit on grant holdback for such authorities. I am, therefore, this year reducing this limitation by 50 per cent.

Block grant will be distributed in accordance with the formulae agreed by the *Welsh local authority* associations. I have decided to retain the existing block grant mechanisms which determine the distributions of block grant and the same safety net for limiting grant losses associated with changes in GRE – a maximum 4p loss at the county level and 1p loss at the district level.

One innovation I am introducing

Edwards: Prepared to consider alternatives

this year is a forward indication of *targets for 1986-87 and 1987-88.* This will assist local authorities in their planning. I must emphasize, however, that these are indeed indications and circumstances in which the Government has to review them cannot be ruled out.

Whether these indicative targets will need to be transformed into *formal guidance figures depends to* a very large extent on authorities' performance next year. I have told the Consultative Council that if budget returns show that authorities, individually and collectively, are on course to spend in line with the associations whether an alternative means of containing *expenditure and encouraging mod*erate rate increases is possible for future years.

Mr Jones: He is being very coy about clearly expressing a view on the effect of this settlement on the standard and depth of local government services. He is placing local authorities under intolerable pressures. A typical Welsh district might have to make real savings of up to £250,000 to achieve a district rate increase in line with inflation.

Penalties have again been increased. The ratepayers' contribution has again been increased, while central Government's contribution has decreased.

Mr Edwards: We have increases in relevant expenditure *and increases* in grant of 5 per cent more than the budget expenditure in the current year, which is more than the inflation rate, and I do not believe anyone could say that represents a harsh regime.

All the indications I have are that the majority, certainly of the counties, will meet their targets or are close to meeting them.

We will agree targets are not the ideal system and if we can continue the progress made so far in meeting the Government's objectives I hope we can move away altogether from a system of targets. We are on the road to achieving that.

Sir Anthony Meyer (North West Clwyd, C): While there is still determination that all waste should be cut, there is increasing anxiety lest essential services might start to suffer if economies are pursued any further.

Mr Edwards: I do not think at a time when we are offering local authorities the ability to increase their expenditure by slightly more than the inflation rate without imposing severe rate burdens there is any need for the kind of suffering he suggests might happen.

Mr Michael Foot (Blaenau Gwent, Lab): One of the heaviest burdens that most local authorities in Wales have to bear is that imposed by persistent mass unemployment. Theres should be some arrangement whereby the scale of unemployment is taken into account.

Mr Edwards: The target for Blaenau Gwent is well above the estimated *inflation rate. Looking at the targets* per head set for English and Welsh counties, all the eight Welsh counties are in the top 11 in the list for the whole of England and Wales.

This suggest they are getting treatment that compares favourably with comparable authorities facing comparable difficulties elsewhere.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Local Government Bill, committee, second day. **Lords** (3): Valerie Mary Hill and Alan Monk (Marriage Enabling) Bill, second reading. Debate on EEC finance.

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

The Enfield Southgate by-election today is important not so much for the attitudes it will reveal as for the effect it may have. That is because there is the possibility of drama in a constituency where the atmosphere could scarcely be less dramatic.

Here is a traditionally safe Conservative seat in which the electorate is having to go to the polls because of the murder of the previous member, Sir Anthony Berry, in the Brighton bombing. In theory this should have made a safe seat safer still. The sympathy factor is added to the Conservative habit. Indeed, initially Mr David Steel was prepared to consider not putting up a Liberal candidate if Mr Kinnock had been willing for Labour to stand aside.

Yet now the Liberals are claiming that they are in with a serious prospect of victory. Some of this public confidence must be ascribed to tactical optimism. Whatever chance the Liberals may have depends upon the electorate believing that they can win.

The point was illustrated by the Harris opinion poll published in the *Observer* on Sunday. The answers to a simple question on voting intention put the Conservative candidate far ahead: with 52 per cent of potential votes, compared with 23 for the Liberal and 22 per cent for Labour.

But when the public were asked for whom they would vote if the Liberal appeared to stand a chance of winning, the Conservative and Liberal were running neck and neck with 42 per cent each, while Labour tailed behind with a mere 15 per cent.

Good record of party managers

So it is critical for the *Liberals to break through the* credibility barrier, and natural for them to try to do so by talking up their chances. Yet I do not believe that to be the sole explanation for their rising hopes.

Their party managers have a good record, not just in running by-election campaigns – at which they are much more proficient than in general elections – but also in keeping their finger on the electorate's pulse. They are accomplished in charting the movement of opinion at by-elections, and I am sure that they are now expecting at least to run the Conservatives quite close.

This would seem to suggest a constituency seething with discontent over banana skins, or possibly even disillusioned with the whole thrust of Government policy. Yet on the doorsteps of Enfield and Southgate yesterday and on Tuesday I did not get the impression of a constituency that was seething with any*thing much at all.*

I suspect that whatever threat there may be to the Conservatives comes not so much from a tidal wave of protest as from a combination of boredom and irritation. It is not easy to get Conservative voters excited about the prospect of going to the polls, in a by-election, in what has always been a safe seat for a Government with a very large majority that has been in office for more than five and a half years.

Vote not decided on sympathy

Nor does it seem likely that the outcome will be determined by a sympathy vote. Perhaps it would have been different if the by-election had taken place in the immediate aftermath of the bombing. But now, while one certainly hears tributes on the doorstep to Sir Anthony's *service as a constituency MP,* one also encounters a feeling that the Consevatives, as a party, have taken Enfield and Southgate for granted too long, both as a parliamentry seat and as a local council.

To this *must be added* a range of grievances, mostly minor and often local. All of these can swing votes. Yet altogether, this does not seem the stuff of which political revolutions are made. I doubt if there is any single clear message, indicative of opinion in the country as a whole, that the people of this constituency are bursting to send.

Yet the way in which they cast their votes may well have an impact far beyond the suburbs of north London. A comfortable Tory victory would help to steady Conservative nerves at a time when the party is clearly rattled. Or a Liberal victory – even a narrow miss in such a constituency – could provide the spark that the Alliance so badly needs.

Outer space to be discussed

The Government believed urgent progress, if at all possible, must be made over arms control in outer space, **Mr Richard Luce**, Minister of State for Foreign and Common*wealth Affairs, said during questions* in the Commons:

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, would be disscussing this among other matters, with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev (a leading member of the Soviet Politburo) when he visited London next week.

Mr Luce said the Government was pleased that the Soviet Union had agreed to discuss outer space arms control with the United States. The Government was strongly committed to arms restraint policies in this area. Together with its other allies, it would continue to support US efforts to achieve progress in this *sphere, but the need for Western* patience and perseverance was as great as ever.

Mr Robert Banks (Harrogate, C): Bearing in mind the two super powers are at the start of a race to develop weapons in space at gigantic cost, will he do all he can to improve understanding between the United States and the Soviet Union on the desirability of reaching agreement to ban all weapons in space? What is the Government's policy towards the United States strategic defence initiative?

Mr Luce: I agree with the urgent need to see measures agreed between East and West, and particularly between the United States and Soviet Union, for arms restraint in outer space. The Prime Minister has talked about the dangers of a new and terrible theatre of war.

The United States goes into these primary discussions in that new area with the clear objective to trying to reach an understanding with the Soviet Union on these matters. The Foreign Secretary has just had discussions with the United States Secretary of State on this and other issues and will shortly be doing so also with Mr Gorbachev in London next week.

Mr Norman Atkinson (Tottenham, Lab): If weapons is 'space are developed for the purpose of achieving satisfactory defence against nuclear weapons surely it minimizes the question of deterrence by nuclear weapons, if a defence system is developed.

Mr Luce: *Both the Soviet Union* and the United States are undertaking some research on strategic defence and ballistic missiles defence. The United States has made clear that they are willing and anxious to talk to the Soviet Union about research on both sides with a view to trying to reach some kind of understanding.

That is a sensible way to proceed and that what I hope they will do. **David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells, C): American space weapons are designed primarily for the defence of the United States and not Europe. Therefore their development would uncouple Europe from the American strategic deterrent.

On those grounds alone, western European governments should resist space weapons and their development on either side.

Mr Luce: It is the British Government's view that we must get urgent progress, if at all possible, in arms restraint in outer space. That having been said, I do believe it is the view of the United States very strongly that the Alliance as a whole should remain united in these matters. We are in the closest possible consultation with them in the important matter of outer space.

Mr Dennis Healey, chief Oppo*sition spokesman on foreign and* Commonwealth affairs: Is not the question of unity a question of what policy unity is about? If the American strategic defence initiative is successful, which most American experts think is most unlikely, it would undermine the whole basis of nuclear stability *which has existed since the Second* Wolrd War.

If the Americans give knowledge to the Russians, it would make a farce of the present Government's policy of maintaining a national nuclear independent deterrent. For these reasons, will he argue strongly with the United States Government to accept the Soviet proposal to ban weapons in outer space?

Mr Luce: I agree the implications of research in outer space are far reaching and serious. That is why it is important. We can support strongly what the United States Government has said. It is willing to discuss its research as well as that of the Russians in outer space with a view to trying to get some kind of understanding in that area.

Quotas must be observed fairly

MILK QUOTAS

Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was asked in the Commons by Mr Brynmor John, chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, to stake *his reputation on fair implemen*tation of the milk quota system throughout the European Community.

Mr Jopling reported to MPs that EEC Agricultural Ministers had agreed, with Denmark abstaining, to invite the Commission to allow postponement of the first levy payment until the end of the marketing year.

Mr John said Britain was in danger of being the only member state to implement the system properly.

Britain's dairy industry (he added) is in total confusion. At the very least this further decision will *prolong their uncertainty.* This decision, coupled with the failure of two countries to try even to implement the quotas, and the latest figures that five countries are over their quotas of production, will lead many people to doubt whether they will ever be properly implemented.

Our dairy farmers have already *made sacrifices.*

Mr Jopling replied that the EEC Commission was considering requests for a general delay today (Wed). First reports suggested that it had decided to make no change to the regulations but he could not anticipate its formal response.

***Mrs Elaine Kellett-Bowman* (Lancaster, C) asked if Mr Jopling was making any progress over the need for flexibility between direct sales and the milk roundsman.**

Mr Jopling said this was the most clear case of unsatisfactory rules within the milk levy arrangements. Regretfully he had raised the matter to no effect at every Agricultural Council since June. But he would vigorously continue to press the matter.

Sir Peter Mills (Devon, West and Torridge, C) said Mr Jopling should put down a marker when he next discussed milk imports in the EEC.

They would be a serious blow (he *said) for many dairy farmers if* imposed on top of the quotas.

Urgent look at training

UNEMPLOYMENT

The key to reducing unemployment could only be found by pursuing the Government's policies, **Lord Young of Graffham**, Minister without Portfolio, said in the Lords. This meant controlling inflation, restraining public expenditure, encouraging the growth of real jobs *and returning to this country the* spirit of enterprise so nearly extinguished by the heavy hand of state control which by 1979 had come to permeate almost every corner of the land.

Speaking in a debate in which the Opposition complained of the lack of urgency shown by the Government in tackling the unemployment problem and called for a statement of the positive steps to be taken to enable available labour to be used to meet undoubted national needs, he said the Government fully understood the need for effective investment if Britain's industries were to be able to match those of its foreign competitors.

However, it was absurd to suggest that spending yet more millions of taxpayers' money on major infrastructure projects was any answer to unemployment. The job creation effects would be much less than was imagined.

He was undertaking an urgent investigation into the whole range of the provision for employment training and payment of benefits to young people. The Youth Training Scheme had been a major milestone along that road. We owe it to our young people (he went on) to encourage its progress by all the means at our disposal.

We are (he continued) the only major European economy generating additional jobs. Only Australia, the United States and Canada are doing better. In the past 12 months we have done better than Japan, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, France, Sweden, Norway and Spain. *Our policies are working.*

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, for the Opposition, who opened the debate, said the Government's medium-term financial strategy was not working. The economy was not responding to it. The Prime Minister's strength was her determination; her weakness was her obstinacy. In due course she must change her policies or she must go.

The Government was to be

Alport: Prime Minister could destroy her party

condemned for operating unworkable policies and for accepting, indeed creating, unemployment as a part of those policies. By so doing it had created a huge problem which could not be quickly or easily solved. The Opposition was asking for a clear and constructive start on the road back to full employment.

The warning lights were flashing for Britain. There was still time to change course. **Lady Seear** (L) said the likelihood of a return to full-time employment by people in the older age groups who had been unemployed for one, two or three years was almost nil, however successful the Government's policies might be.

It would be a real economy, a cost-effective thing to do, to enable people in that category to earn far more than was permitted at present without losing unemployment benefit. Savings in other directions would go a long way to offset the cost that would be involved.

The Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Rev Ronald Bowlby, said he took no political line but the point was being reached in the national conscience when the need to take action about unempolyment was seen by the majority as overwhelming and urgent.

Everyone wanted the burden of taxation on the lower paid lifted; the poverty trap was a menace. But lifting the threshold helped those without need as well as those in need. A simple increase in child benefit would do the job more precisely

Lord Alport (C) said the price for fighting inflation was reflected in the miners' strike and in social unrest which might have ugly consequences for the cohesion of the nation before the end of the century.

If the Prime Minister and the Government continue with the present policies (he said) then the Prime Minister will end up destroying the party she leads and she will leave behind her anger and disillusion and a nation divided against itself. A nation, like a house divided against itself, cannot stand.

He would vote for the motion so no-one could accuse him of speaking in coded terms. He did not want to say goodbye to a Conservative Government, but unless there was a change in direction, the electorate would say goodbye to the Prime Minister and her administration at the next General Election.

Help available in time of national disaster

CIVIL DEFENCE

The Government intends to make civil resources, at present to be used only in time of war, available for use in peace time disasters **Lady Trumpington**, the Government spokesman, said during question time in the House of Lords.

Lord Orr-Ewing (C) had said that civil defence could be used in the event of a disaster such as that at Bhopal and those who pretend there was no need for civil defence should be reminded of that.

Lady Trumpington: He is not correct. The Civil Defence Act is confined to measures against enemy attack, but we de acknowledge that the planning staff of local authorities would undertake the coodination of plans in a peace-time emergency.

The Government intends to introduce legislation to enable civil defence resources to be used for this purpose. There is a Bill ready to be taken up as a private Member's Bill on this point. *Perhaps he would care* to do it?

Commissioners defended

Britain's recently appointed EEC Commissioners, Lord Cockfield and Mr Stanley Clinton Davis, were defended by **Mr Malcolm Rifkind**, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Sir Anthony Meyer (North West Clyd, C): The French Government appointed as its two Commissioners a former foreign minister and a former finance minister.

If these are two important posts, would it not have been a good idea for pesons of this quality to have been selected by us

Mr Rifkind: Sir Anthony's remarks are unworthy.

I do not think he does any service to the United Kingdom to say their qualities are other than excellent.

Call for inquiry before councils go

ABOLITION BILL

Government proposals to abolish the Greater London Council and six *metropolitan county councils were* ill-considered and without merit, *Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition* spokesman on the environment, said when opening the committee stage of the local Government Bill.

He moved the first of a group of amendments which would delay abolition of the GLC and Metropolitan counties. The amendments variously provided that there should be a proper inquiry before abolition was proceeded with held by, for example, a Royal Commission or audit commission.

He said it was now notorious that the proposals in the Bill were cobbled together in haste without proper consultation or consideration, even within the Conservative Party, let alone outside it. It was against the express wishes of the policy committee of the Conservative Party.

No-smoking campaign

Tube train ban reinforces trend

By David Cross

The imposition of an almost total smoking ban on London's Underground system is the latest step in the seemingly inexorable drive to turn Britain's public places into smokeless zones.

Although anti-smoking lobbies like ASH, Action on Smoking and Health, are highly critical of the shortage of non-smoking facilities, principally in restaurants and public houses, they concede that the introduction of smoking bans has accelerated markedly during the past four or five years. ASH attributes this largely to the increasing awareness and outspokenness among non-smokers of the dangers of *inhaling* tobacco smoke in the air.

British Rail, in particular, it says has been exemplary in its response to the wishes of non-smokers.

Last month it increased the non-smoking compartments on Inter City 125 trains from a ratio of 60 to 40 to 70 to 30, bringing them into line with suburban and short distance trains, where 75 per cent of compartments are for non-smokers.

Airlines and ferries vary greatly in providing for non-smokers. Loganair, the independent Scottish airline, bans smoking on all flights, while Air Algerie, the Algerian state airline, provides between four and six seats at the back of aircraft *for non-smokers.*

No-smoking seats in British Airways' planes range between 50 and 70 per cent of the number available, and on British Caledonian the figure is 75 per cent.

Sealink offers the best facilities for passengers on ferries to France, Belgium and Holland, with about 60 per cent of seating in cabins, lounges, bars and restaurants set aside.

On public transport local authorities have introduced smoking restrictions or total smoking bans, in addition to London Transport. The Newcastle Metro bans smoking in its seven underground stations and on all trains (smoking is allowed on the 34 overground stations), while Glasgow has a total ban on its revamped underground system.

Plymouth, Brighton, Belfast, Aberdeen, and Darlington have introduced bans on buses, and some, like Cardiff, are operating experiments during which passengers are being asked not to smoke. In London smoking is banned on Red Arrow buses and restricted on other services.

In a recent survey into local authority policies on smoking, ASH found considerable regional variations in attitude to smoking, which the Department of Health and Social Security this week blamed for about 100,000 deaths a year. A total of 456 councils in England and Wales responded to a questionnaire which asked for their policy on smoking in council and committee meetings.

Eastern England came out top of the non-smoking league, with about 90 per cent of councils reporting a specific policy, closely followed by the *West Country (89 per cent)* and the Home Counties (88 per cent). Wales was bottom with 72 per cent of councils acceding to the wishes of the non-smoking lobby.

On a county basis, the top nine areas, with all councils having a policy, were Avon, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Hereford and Worcestershire, Lincolnshire, Somerset, East Sussex, West Sussex and Warwickshire. Lowest scorers were Merseyside, Powys, and Tyne and Wear where 50 per cent of councils had a policy.

Victorian river lights go out

By Tony Samstag

Despite restoration work in the late 1960s, wind, rain and weather have continued to ravage the splendid globe lights that line the Thames along the Chelsea Embankment. At least half the lights are unlit at night, some are broken or rusting, and a score or more are missing altogether. The Greater London Council is doing its best to restore them, but could not say yesterday when it thought the job might be done. The cast-iron standards, with their distinctive crowns atop the globes and dolphins at the base, were erected in the 1870s to a design by Timothy Butler. Where the originals are past hope, the GLC is having reproductions cast (Photograph: Chris Harris).



Tourist was killed for handbag

Linda Bradley, aged 25, was stabbed through the heart when Spanish muggers snatched her handbag, an inquest in Southwark, south London, was told yesterday.

Miss Bradley, a 5ft 3in tall typist, of Weston Street, Southwark, was set upon in a Torremolinos street the day before she was due to fly home.

She and her companion, Mrs Christine Batty, aged 29, of Wandsworth, were attacked in the early hours of August 31

Three men have been charged wih Miss Bradley's murder. Police Constable Steven Pagdin said: "Interpol have told us they are likely to remain in custody for two years before they come to trial."

The coroner, Dr Arthur Gordon Davis, returned a verdict of unlawful killing.

Footballer's bail

West Ham's goalkeeper Phil Parkes, aged 34, of Wokingham, Berkshire, was yesterday remanded on bail until January 9 when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court on a drink-driving charge.

Commons inquiry sheds doubt on Britain's legal claim to Falklands

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Britain's legal claim to the Falklands, which is at the heart of the centuries-old dispute with Argentina and led to war two years ago, is cast into doubt by the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee in a report published yesterday.

After inquiries into the two rival sovereignty claims, the all-party group of MPs says: "The historical and legal evidence demonstrates such areas of uncertainty that we are unable to reach a categorical conclusion on the legal validity of the historical claims of either country."

But the committee, whose Falklands investigation has taken two years, emphasizes that much of the historical argument has been rendered less relevant by Argentina's "illegal resort to arms".

Without referring directly to Fortress Falklands, the MPs say the cost of defending the islands, £684 million this year and £552 million next year, will remain a substantial drain on the defence budget while the present policy continues, allowing for the savings brought about by the airport at Mount Pleasant.

"In broad terms it is costing us about one thousand times as much to defend each inhabitant of the Falklands as it costs us to defend each inhabitant of the UK."

Britain's unqualified refusal since the conflict to discuss the sovereignty of the Falklands with Argentina "undoubtedly" makes progress on issues such as bilateral relations more difficult. But, after a disagreement in the committee, the report says in the present situation "this policy is no doubt prudent".

Labour MPs wanted to describe such an attitude as "understandable" but were voted down by the Conservative majority.

The attitude of the Argentine democratic government under President Alfonsin towards negotiations on sovereignty is essentially no different to that of its predecessors, the MPs say.

"Such negotiations once begun, must lead eventually and inevitably to the relinquishment of the United Kingdom's claim to end administration of the Falklands."

Because questions of principle and national honour are at stake and feelings in Argentina, Britain and the Falklands are so intense, "the prospects for an early settlement of the sovereignty dispute itself are remote."

"All our evidence, has, in fact, reinforced the wisdom of the general approach now being adopted by HM Government, that progress should be made towards re-establishing practical and sensible arrangements for relations between the two countries."

The absence of normal diplomatic and commercial relations are not in the best interests of either country and will have to be recitfied before long, the MPs say.

"Some kind of accommodation with Argentina is not only inevitable, in view of the cost of the present policy to the UK, but also desirable if the Falklands are to have any prospect of long-term economic prosperity and the political stablility."

Although the committee says that Britain should not agree to the inclusion of the soverignty issue in talks with Argentina "in the immediate future" it should be willing to discuss how progress can be made to try to find a negotiated settlement as requested by the United Nations.

The MPs recommend that Britain should announce it will lift the Falklands protection zone once Argentina formally declares an end to hostilities: undertakes progressively to reduce the size of the army, air force and navy presence in and around the islands; and announces publicly the non-sovereignty issues it is prepared to discuss with Britain.

Special Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Falkland Islands, volume 1, Command 268-1 (Stationery Office: £5.55).



Crime crackdown: A Mafia suspect chained to a policeman arriving at Turin airport. Judges in the city have issued 380 arrest warrants on Mafia-related charges.

Mafia informers live in fear

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The increasingly successful Italian onslaught on the higher echelons of the Mafia has brought in its wake the problem of how to protect relatives of Mafia criminals who confess.

A group of investigators in Palermo responsible for some of the most dramatic arrests in recent weeks has sent an appeal to President Pertini and to the Government asking for adequate means of protecting "repentant" criminals and their families.

Their case has authoritative backing from no less "repentant" a criminal than Tommaso Buscetta, the first of the great figures in the Sicilian Mafia's history to offer testimony. His brother-in-law was murdered on Friday and he wrote to one of the Palermo judges who signed the appeal to the President, expressing his disappointment that protection for members of his family had proved inadequate.

Naturally, the hope is strong that others will continue to follow his example. That this hope is reasonable is shown by another huge series of arrests carried out on Tuesday in Catania, Rome, Turin and elsewhere on the instructions of Turin magistrates investigating the Mafia. They are know to have been helped by the confession of Salvatore Parisi, aged 30, a murderer from Catania who was arrested in Turin in September

● MADRID: For the first time, the Spanish Supreme Court has ordered one of its own members, and a judge of a lower court, to stand trial, (Harry Debelius writes).

The Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday that there was reasonable grounds for suspicion of criminal action by Justice Jaime Rodriguez Hermida and Judge Ricardo Varon Cobos, in connection with the unexpected release of a member of the Mafia. The alleged offence was prevarication, specifically of deliberately perpetrating a miscarriage of justice.

Moscow sends top man to mend fences in Peking

Peking (Reuter) – The Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Ivan Arkhipov, the highest-ranking Kremlin leader to visit China in 15 years, will arrive in Peking on December 21, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The trip replaces a visit planned for last May which Mr Arkhipov cancelled abruptly after President Reagan's China tour and renewed fighting on the Sino-Vietnamese border. It reflects a gradual improvement in relations between the estranged Communist giants.

Asian and Western diplomats said Moscow and Peking hoped to conclude a trade agreement for the period 1986-90 during Mr Arkhipov's visit.

The two sides have also identified about 30 factories where Soviet technicians would help to modernize plant installed during the period of Sino-Soviet friendship in the 1950s.

The Chinese Communist Party chairman, Mr Hu Yaobang said last month the two countries were considering establishing some joint committees to promote trade, economic and technical cooperation.

The neighbours, which fell out over ideological differences in the late 1950s, completed a fifth round of talks on normalizing relations in October and agreed they both wanted to expand economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and sporting links. But political relations remain blocked.

Peking demands a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, reductions in Soviet forces along the Chinese border and an end to the Kremlin's support for Vietnam's presence in Cambodia as preconditions for better political ties.

Moscow accuses Peking of deviating from the true path of socialism, and says China is making unreasonable demands and is not really interested in improved relations.

Mr Arkhipov is likely to find Chinese leaders in an ebullient mood. His trip will follow closely on Mrs Thatcher's visit when she will sign an agreement on handing back Hong Kong.

Talks with Tokyo too

Tokyo (Reuter) – Japan and the Soviet Union opened three days of economic cooperation talks yesterday, the first since 1979, and chief delegates called for improved economic ties.

The Soviet Vice-Foreign Trade Minister, Mr Vladimir Sushkov, heading a 70-member delegation, told the opening session of the ninth meeting of the Japan-Soviet economic cooperation committee that both sides should try to improve relations.

The annual committee meetings were suspended in 1979 after Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan

The Singapore election

Opposition puts up 48 candidates

From Stephen Taylor, Singapore

The opposition facing Mr Lee Kuan Yew's People's Action Party in Singapore's election next week was revealed yesterday when eight rival parties nominated a total of 48 candidates to stand against the PAP.

The close of nominations, which included three independents, left the PAP unopposed in 30 constituencies in an enlarged parliament of 79 seats, and most party officials appear confident that on December 22 it will secure a fifth successive electoral clean sweep.

Nevertheless, the election will be watched for any sign that voters – and in particular the young – are disgruntled with the PAP's authoritarian style of government. If, as some knowledgeable sources are suggesting, the PAP lost two or perhaps even three seats, it would represent a significant rebuff for controversial social policies raised by Mr Lee recently.

To the fore in yesterday's nomination process was the Workers' Party, led by the island's only opposition MP Mr Ben Jeyaretnam, which will be putting up 15 candidates.

The Anson seat, which Mr Jeyaretnam won at a by-election in 1981 to break what had in effect become one-party rule for 13 years, will be a crucial barometer of opinion. The PAP has gone all-out to regain the seat

At yesterday's ceremony, supporters cheered their candidate, Mr Ng Pock Too, a parliamentary secretary to Mr Lee, and chanted "PAP for Anson".

Mr Jeyaretnam apart, the odds are heavily against the opposition's efforts to dent the PAP's stranglehold on parliament. Only 10 days have been allowed for campaigning and the PAP's opponens lack leadership, money and manpower.

The one thing they share is the conviction that the PAP's tentacles intrude into the life of all citizens and must be cut back. One WP slogan is "Wake up to your freedom, it's time".

The other party whose performance will be closely monitored is the Singapore Democratic Party. The SDP is fielding only four candidates, but Mr Chiam See Tong, its secretary-general, is an articulate critic of government who observers believe might win a place.

Other parties fielding candidates include the Singapore United Front (13), theUnited People's Front (8) and the Barisan Socialis (4).

East Germans will fast to aid asylum plea

Bonn-Some 73 East Germans still seeking asylum in the West German embassy in Prague plan to start a hunger strike tomorrow to support their demand to emigrate before Christmas, the mass-circulation *Bild* newspaper said yesterday (Michael Binyon writes).

The refugees, who have been in the embassy almost two months, have written to Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, to appeal for help.

Bild, however has quoted Herr Wolfgang Vogel, the East German lawyer who negotiates on the issue, as saying that no one should hope for any other solution at Christmas than a return to East Germany.

East Berlin has insisted that no-one else who flees into a western embassy will be allowed to leave directly for the west.

Swiss rethink TV screening of 'Emmanuelle'

Geneva (AP) – The Swiss French-language television network will decide this week whether to go ahead with its controversial decision to broadcast the sexually-explicit film *Emmanuelle* on New Year's Eve, its programme director said yesterday.

Mr Jean Dumur said a survey in the weekly magazine *L'Illustré* showed that 72 per cent of the 500 French-language viewers polled were not shocked by the idea of seeing the film on television.

The 10-year-old French production, starring the Dutch actress Sylvia Kristel in love-making scenes with men and women, is scheduled to be shown at 2.15am on January 1 as part of an all-night film programme.

Kohl dismisses Soviet slur on war ceremony

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

West Germany has dismissed Soviet attacks on Bonn's plans for a day of prayer to commemorate the end of the Second World War as fatuous propaganda, expressing hopes that the Western allies will take a firm stand against Soviet attempts to exploit the occasion.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl has ruled out any "noisy ceremonies" to mark the 40th anniversary of Germany's capitulation, and called instead for an ecumenical service in Cologne Cathedral to commemorate the war dead of all nations.

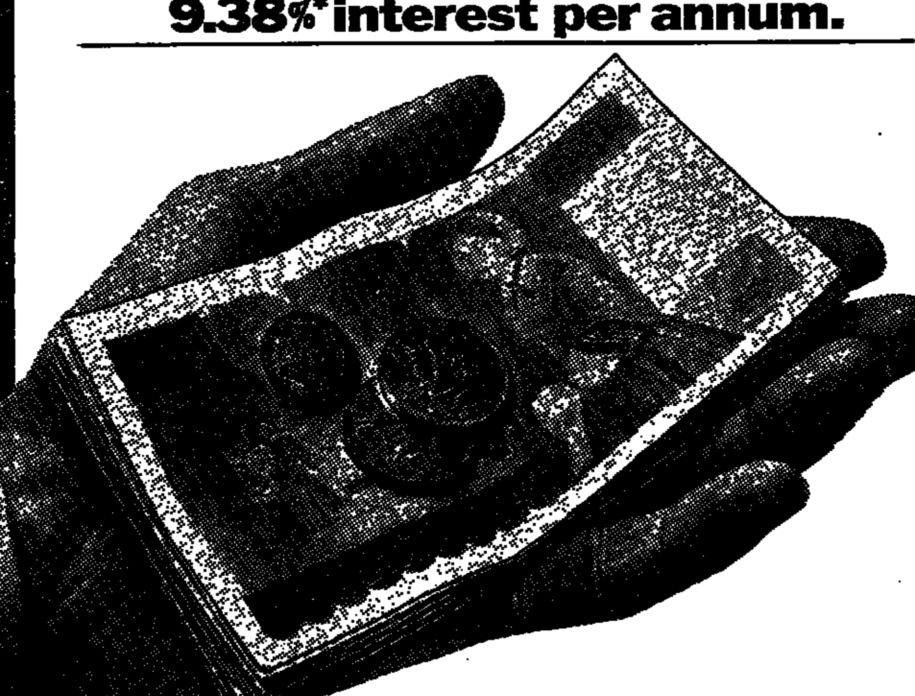
On Tuesday, Tass asked in an acid commentary for whom the prayers would be held. "For SS hangmen, whose hands were crimson with the blood of European nations, for war criminals who brought millions of men, women and children suffering, misery and torture?"

Herr Peter Boenisch, the government spokesman, said he had never read anything so stupid as Tass. It was clear someone wanted to express his hatred of Germans.

Bonn is now pondering a proposed state visit here by President Reagan on May 2-4, immediately after the economic summit and before the anniversary of VE Day. Most people think a proposed visit by the President, together with Herr Kohl, to Dachau concentration camp would be inappropriate and look like domestic electioneering. The Chancellor's office has also firmly ruled out any meeting on May 8 between President Reagan, President Mitterrand and Mrs Thatcher.

The French President is understood to have let Bonn know that he is against taking part in any further ceremonies like the Normandy celebrations

Newspapers here gave a warm welcome yesterday to the remarks by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in West Berlin that Britain intended vigorously to discharge its responsibilities for the defence of West Berlin's freedom.



MP takes legal action to force Sharon back from New York court

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

With Mr Ariel Sharon's $50 million libel suit against *Time* magazine entering its second month, a political storm is brewing in Israel about the prolonged absence of the new Minister for Trade and Industry and the mounting cost of financing his legal battle in New York.

The controversial hearing arises out of 18 words in an article printed on February 21, 1983, concerning the report of the Kahan Commission into the massacre of Palestinian refugees in the Beirut camps of Sabra and *Chatila*.

In an unprecedented legal move yesterday, the opposition Citizens' Rights Movement, which has three deputies in the Knesset, sought a High Court injunction to force Mr Sharon to return immediately or to take *indefinite leave*.

In his application for an injunction against the government, the Prime Minister and Mr Sharon, one Knesset member, Mr Mordechai Bar-On, also submitted that the minister should himself be required to finance the costs of his visit and that of his staff, which are now being met by the Government.

Mr Sharon, a former Defence Minister and architect of the 1982 Lebanon invasion, has not been in Jeruselem since November 5. Mr Bar-On and other parliamentery critics claim that his absence is technically illegal, because he was granted Cabinet permission for only a two week absence.

Among those now calling for Mr Sharon's resignation is Mr Chaim Bar-Lev, Police Minister in the National Unity Government. He described as "absurd" the decision by the Exchequer to continue funding Mr Sharon's stay in the United States.

"Mr Sharon has claimed that the state of Israel is on trial, but he did not bother to ask the country whether it is interested in such a trial", Mr Bar-Lev said. "The trial is causing considerable damage to Israel on several fronts."

Criticism of Mr Sharon, a leading contender for the future leadership of the right-wing Likud faction, has been heightened because his ministry is supposedly at the centre of efforts to solve Israel's inflationary crisis through a three-month freeze on wages and prices.

Senior trade ministry officials have complained that their entire travelling budget for the current fiscal year has been eaten up in New York.

In a bitterly worded leading article, the Tel Aviv daily *Ha'aretz* accused Mr Sharon of failing to return home after the two weeks it said was granted to *him by the Cabinet to deal with* the trial and "matters pertaining to his ministry". It claimed that any businessman who had acted in a similar fashion would have been dismissed from his company.

In an Israel Radio interview *from New York, Mr Sharon* replied in characteristically blunt fashion, accusing the Labour Party headed by the Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, of aiding Israel's enemies "as it had done in the past".

Changing times at the EEC

Thorn gloomy on future unity

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

A European Community of ten states, or 12 as it is due to become, cannot be managed by consensus, Mr Gaston Thorn told the European Parliament here in his farewell speech as Commission President yesterday.

Mr Thorn's view of the Community's future without a majority voting system is gloomy. The veto, he said, constituted a negation of the spirit of the treaty of Rome and the political ends of European *construction*.

He worried about the ravages that would be caused by "the pure accountant's approach" now that rules to control spending had been introduced. The idea should not be to build an association of states but a community of different people.

For millions of citizens, he *argued, the Community* would lose its purpose if the building of Europe were to be neglected for selfish reasons. This thinly-disguised reference to British insistence on spending controls show that Mr Thorn is worried that Britain is undermining the *future of the Community.*

Speaking on the eve of a parliamentary vote likely to reject the EEC budget for next year, he pleaded for the Community to decide positively that it should exist.

Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, was more positive in his final report on the six months of the Irish presidency.

He believed the Community was again on the move, citing negotiations to include Spain and Portugal and the agreement on spending control, but admitted that "the essential task of relaunching the Community remains uncompleted."

Greece counts on Italy for help

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece is counting on the Italians, who assume the rotating presidency of the European Community next month, to push through the plan for massive aid to help the poorer Mediterranean regions to cushion the competitive shock from the admission of Spain and Portugal.

Otherwise, the Greek leaders insist, they will block the Community's enlargement until this plan, known as the "integrated Mediterranean programmes" (IMPs) is agreed, sealed and delivered.

Italy would, in fact, be the largest beneficiary under the Commission's original proposals, to the tune of 44.5 per cent of a total then estimated at 6.6 billion ECUs or £3.960 million.

Greece would be entitled to 38.4 per cent or £1.5 billion. *The rest, 17 per cent, would go* to France, which would eventually become a net contributor to the plan, hence its aloofness.

The officials in Athens blame Mrs Thatcher, in particular, and the other "Northern" Community members, except perhaps West Germany, for blocking these credits out of sheer bloody-mindedness.

Spanish and Portuguese vegetables, fruit, wines and olive oil are likely to give stiff competition to similar Greek products when the two Iberian countries join the Community. The IMPs were devised originally to help the poorer areas in France and Italy and the whole of Greece to improve their economies and buttress them against the shock.

Under the original scheme, about two-thirds the bulk of the grant of £1.5 billion would go to improve Greek agriculture, forestry and fisheries. One-third would help to create infrastructure, improve communications, promote tourism, train manpower and develop sources of energy.

Officials in Athens say the original sum of £1.5 billion over *six years is negotiable, but they* were shocked when the Community's 1985 budget included of 50 million ECUs (£30 million) for the first year of application, of which £11.4 million would be for Greece.

Greece now wants the Council of Ministers to respect the Fontainebleau summit's pledge and tackle seriously the proposals for the IMPs now before it, inserting generous sums where the blanks were left for the total cost of the programme, its duration, and its sources of financing.

"What we do not want", said a Greek official, "is that money from the Community's funds that Greece would have received anyway should simply be diverted and rechristened IMPs."

Strict action confirmed on milk surplus

From Our Own Correspondent Strasbourg

There is to be no reprieve for the EEC's surplus milk producers. The European Commission yesterday rejected a request from member states for a fifth delay in payments of the new super-levy on production *in excess of the agreed quotas.*

Community farm ministers on Tuesday asked the Commission for a further delay until March before making initial payments. France and Belgium both said they were still having trouble organizing administration *to monitor the quotas.*

But in Strasbourg yesterday the Commision decided, after the shortest of debates, to ignore the request. As it manages *agricultural policy it has the last* word on when the money should be paid, and it means to stick to its ruling that half of all money owed in a levy for over-production in the first six months of the quota system, must be paid by Saturday.

Just a month before it retires, the Commission feels it must get tough to ensure that the controversial system works. It has noted that production dropped by 3 per cent in its first six months, and that the fall over last year is now nearly 8 *per cent.*

The main offenders have already been taxed by the commission, by its refusal to forward advance payments totalling almost £60 million to countries in which it believes over-production is continuing.

Advance payments withheld from EEC countries	
West Germany	£23.4m
France	£21.6m
Holland	£9.6m
Ireland	£2.4m
Northern Ireland	£1.74m

40-tonne lorry limit

Brussels. – All lorries in the EEC – apart from Britain and Ireland – will be bound by a 40-tonne maximum weight limit from the end of 1986, transport ministers meeting in Brussels have agreed (Ian Murray writes).

The new limit means that some countries, like Italy and Holland, will have to decrease the present maximum levels, while other countries will have to increase theirs.

But it will not be until February 1987 that the question will be raised again about limits in Britain and Ireland and even then they will be able to veto any attempt to make them raise the present limits. The question then will be whether a target date can be set for the two countries to raise their limits.

Sinhalese learn how to grin and bear it

From Donovan Moldrich Colombo

When launching the Civil Defence scheme to protect Sri Lanka against internal or external aggression, the Prime Minister, Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, commended the example of the British in the Second World War to his own people.

That the message has gone home has been seen in the stoic calm with which the Sinhalese have endured a series of disasters.

When 10 bombs exploded in different parts of Colombo, killing three persons and injuring seven, people went about their business almost as if nothing had happened.

Attempts by the Tamil separatist rebels to blow up a pipeline from the only oil refinery near Colombo, and an attack on the tower of the state television service on the highest mountain in the central hills, also caused death and injuries, but concern was tempered by relief that no serious damage had been done.

The real test for the Sinhalese majority in the south came late in November, when the rebels killed the Sinhalese army commander in the northern region and followed up with a huge attack on a northern police post in which 27 policemen and three civilians were killed.

It was the killing of 13 Sinhalese army personnel that provoked the July 1983 ethnic riots in which more than 400 Tamils were killed in the south. *The Government imposed* a 30-hour curfew as the funerals of those killed in the police station attack were held, and only three or four minor incidents took place.

A week later Tamil rebels launched attacks on Sinhalese farmers at two prisoner rehabilitation schemes in the north-east, and then on two settlements of migrant Sinhalese fishermen, also in the north-east. Eighty men, women and children were killed in the attack on the two farms and 13 in the assault on the fishing villages.

President Jayewardene and the Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, have repeatedly emphasized that the aim of the Tamil rebels is to provoke the Sinhalese in the south into retaliatory action which would compel the Government to *divert some troops in the north* to restoring order in the south.

The attacks on the farms and fishing villages were followed immediately by the capture, kidnapping and possible killing of 12 Sinhalese workers at the government cement factory in the north. Once again the Sinhalese in the south reacted with restraint.

The *only blot on* the Sinhalese record was in the north-western town of Mannar, where the Army went on the rampage after one soldier died in an explosion. For three days the Government tried to maintain that the Army had killed only 31 "terrorists" in a counter-attack, with the possibility of a few civilians being killed in the crossfire. However, in the face of eye-witness reports that about 100 civilians had been killed, Mr Athulathmudali decided on an official investigation.

In the improved climate of relations between the two communities in the south, Mr Athulathmudali has called on Tamils to show their solidarity with the Sinhalese by joining the vigilance committees that are being formed and making known their opposition to terrorism.

The all-party conference on the Tamil problem, which last met on September 30, is due to meet again today and tomorrow.

Reagan envoy backs political solution

Delhi (Reuter) – General Vernon Walters, the United States special envoy, yesterday agreed with India that there could be no military solution to Sri Lanka's crisis, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

General Walters arrived in Delhi on Tuesday night after talks in Colombo on the guerrilla violence and ethnic unrest. He emphasized the need for an urgent political solution.



Bhopal exodus: Smiles that hide fear on a crowded train as thousands yesterday fled the *disaster city of Bhopal in India, spurred by rumours that attempts to* make the Union Carbide chemical plant safe would release more killer gas.

White House battle for Meese's job

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

An ideological power battle is under way at the White House about the departure early next year of Mr Edwin Meese, the White House Counsellor, to become Attorney General. It will leave a gap in the top echelons that is worrying conservatives close to President Reagan.

They are determined to keep their substantial influence on the White House, but a strong group of moderate Republicans, headed by Mr James Baker, the Chief of Staff, is pressing hard for an increased role.

Mr Reagan may not have decided definitely to appoint another Counsellor, since the position was based principally on his longstanding personal friendship with Mr Meese. Few in the Administration are as close to the President, or have such ready access to the Oval Office.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, United States ambassador to the United Nations, may want the job. Conservatives are supporting her strongly for a top White House post, but even if she became Counsellor or a special presidential adviser, *they would remain gloomy* about the departure of the powerful Mr Meese. Although he will retain substantial influence as a Cabinet member, conservatives fear that his departure will *diminish* their contact with the Oval Office.

His successor – however conservative – cannot possibly weild the same kind of influence. There are genuine fears that Mr Reagan's conservative *agenda might be stalled.*

In particular, Mr Meese's departure to the Justice Department would increase the leverage of Mr Baker, a moderate conservative whose staff has frequently been critical of the lack of political pragmatism of Mr Meese. Any increase in his power would be regarded by conservatives as a defeat in the battle for ideological supremacy.

Mrs Kirkpatrick's decision to delay her departure from the United Nations may be related to the possibility of her taking over the job as Counsellor. After a 30-minute meeting with Mr Reagan on Tuesday she said: "We talked a bit about the future an agreed to talk again *some time after the inauguration* (in January)."

Challenge to Senator defeated

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Senator Robert Byrd, from West Virginia, was re-elected as Senate Democratic minority leader yesterday, defeating a challenge by Senator Lawton Chiles, from Florida.

Senator Byrd defeated Senator Chiles by a vote of 32-10 among Democrats who will serve in the Senate next year. Five of the 47 Democrats did not vote.

Two outstanding results from the November election to the House of Representatives have emerged after recounts, Congressional sources said.

Robert Edgar, the incumbent Democrat, defeated Curt Weldon, Republican, in Pennsylvania District 7.

David Monson, held Utah District 2 for the Republicans, beating Frances Farley, Democrat.

Other results not included in *The Times* results table on November 8, or only published in later editions, were:

California District 18, won by Richard Lehman, the incumbent Democrat; Idaho District 2, won by Richard Stallings, Democrat, defeating the Republican incumbent George Hansen; Illinois District 22, retained for the Democrats by a new candidate, Kenneth Gray; Indiana District 8, held by Frank McCloskey, the incumbent Democrat; and Texas *District 6, taken from the* Democrats by a Republican, Joe Barton.



● Shultz plea: Belgium was urged yesterday by Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State (above, speaking on his arrival in Brussels), to deploy cruise missiles in March as planned. He received no assurance from the Belgian Prime Minister, Mr Wilfred Martens. Mr Shultz said the failure of Belgium and Holland to commit themsleves to deployment harmed prospects for US-Soviet arms talks. "Of course it is harmful if undertakings are not adhered to," he said.

Gorbachov team of 30 for UK trip

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent



Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, second only to President Chernenko in the Soviet Communist Party hierarchy, will lead a delegation of 30 when he arrives on Saturday for a week's visit to Britain.

He comes as a guest of the British Inter-Parliamentary Union and visits to the Commons and leading British industries are included in his itinerary.

But interest throughout the West will be focused most intently on extensive talks with Mrs Margaret Thatcher at Chequers on Sunday and with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary at the Foreign Office on Monday.

Whitehall is clearly delighted by the prospect of feting the man whom Kremlinologists tip as the most likely successor to the septuagenarian Mr Chernenko.

Mr Gorbachov, who will be accompanied by his wife, Raisa, is arguably the most important Russian to come to Britain since Mr Kosygin arrived as *Prime Minister in 1967, and* certainly since the visit of Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, seven years ago.

Rising star, page 14

I was sold to sex club, British girl tells court

Nice (AFP) – A young British hitch-hiker was raped, beaten, drugged and forced into prosti*tution for several weeks by two* gangs of thugs on the French Riviera, one of which tried to sell her to a West German sex club, a court was told here yesterday.

The Assizes court for the Alpes-Maritimes Department is hearing murder charges against two of the men, François Tripodi and Serge Pastouret, accused of gunning down a third, Jacques Snaidero, after he fell in love with the young woman and helped her escape.

The court heard that the woman, named only as Elizabeth H. from London, had gone camping in Spain with friends in June 1981, when she was 17. She then thumbed lifts as far as Antibes, on the Cote d'Azur, on the way to see friends in Nice.

In her deposition – her lawyer said she was too frightened to appear personally in court – she said she was picked up by three men in a car who promised to put her up and find her a job, since she had no money.

She said after two or three days, however, they told her she must become a streetwalker, and beat her up to convince her.

However, she slipped away from one of her "protectors" and joined three other "very friendly" young men who found her a place to stay. But the new trio quickly started beating her and put her back on the street.

In late 1981, she learned she had been sold to an "Eros Centre" in West Germany for 30,000 francs (about £2,600).

Zambian firms face big fraud inquiries

From Alfred Saylla Lusaka

Financial scandals involving millions of kwacha continue to surface in Zambia. In separate incidents, two state-owned financial houses are alleged to have swindled the public out of more than 6 million kwacha *(£2.5 million) in the last* 10 years.

Investigations and audits are under way at the Zambia National Provident Fund and Zambia National Commercial Bank.

Three state bodies, the Anti-Corruption Commission, the Special Investigations Team for Economy and Trade and the Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation were moving in to search through files and interrogate various people before deciding on prosecutions.

Petrol bombs hit home of Soweto mayor

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

Two petrol bombs were thrown through windows of the home of the mayor of Soweto early yesterday, less than 48 hours after his election. Mr Edward Kunene, aged 52, and his family were not hurt.

The attack follows the murder by gunmen last week of the leading candidate for mayor, Mr Edward Manyosi. After his election on Monday Mr Kunene said: "If death comes my way, I'll face it."

He won his council seat as a candidate for migrant workers in the sprawling black township, the home of more than two million blacks outside Johannesburg, and was appointed mayor in succession to Mr Ephraim Tshabalala, a millionaire *businessman*

Mauritania President ousted in army coup

Nouakchott (Reuter) The former Mauritanian Prime Minister, Lieutenant-Colonel Maaouya Ould Taya, seized power here yesterday in a coup, *Nouakchott radio said.*

The radio added that night curfew had been imposed and all airports closed until further notice.

The Mauritanian President, Lieutenant-Colonel Muhammad Khouna Ould Haidalla, was reported to have left the Burundi capital Bujumbura, where he was attending the Franco-African summit meeting for an unknown destination.

Mauritania, a poor, largely desert country in West Africa, *has* had a turbulent history since the Army overthrew the pro-western President Moktar Ould Daddah in 1979. Lieutenant-Colonel Haidalla was chief of staff of the Army from the 1978 coup until April 1979, when he became Defence *Minister* and then Prime Minister.

He took supreme power in a 1980 reshuffle of the military leadership, becoming president in place of Lieutenant-Colonel Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Ahmed Louly, who was dismissed after only six months in office.

The radio said the situation in the capital was calm but guns had been placed in front of armed forces headquarters.

President Haidalla sacked Lieutenant Colonel Taya as Prime Minister last March and took over the day-to-day running of government in a cabinet reshuffle. He also replaced him as minister of defence.

Lieutenant Colonel Taya, a 41-year-old French-trained officer *who was previously* armed forces chief of staff, had been Prime Minister since 1981.

He was appointed chief of staff again in the March reshuffle.

Mauritania has been ravaged by severe drought during the last decade, increasing already severe economic problems. The former French colony, which depends for most of its meagre foreign exchange earnings on iron ore exports, celebrated 24 years of independence this month.

● Mauritania is a drought-hit nation on the fringe of the Sahara desert. About the size of France and Spain combined. Its capital is Nouakchott, on the Atlantic coast. Formerly a city of 100,000 people, it is now home to 450,000 many of them living in tents and shantytowns.

With two-thirds of its land already swallowed up by the desert before the current drought, the country now produces only about 5 per cent *of its food needs.*

Chadian forces, page 7

Kasparov opens record day with variation

Moscow (Reuter). – Gary Kasparov, playing white, yesterday, began the 32nd game of his *world chess title challenge* against the champion, Anatoly Karpov, with an opening last used in the tenth game of their *record competition.*

Karpov used his last time-out to postpone the game until yesterday, when he adopted his *usual counter.*

Kasparov chose a more ambitious seventh move in seeking control influence and forced the champion to consider a game variation not seen for several weeks.

Yesterday was the 94th day of play, *surpassing* the record set in 1978 when Karpov beat the Soviet defector, Viktor Korchnoi, 6-5. Karpov leads 5-0, and needs only one more victory to retain the title.

Moi extends pardon to 'guilty' Njonjo

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Moi of Kenya announced yesterday that he had pardoned his former Minister of Constitutional Affairs, Mr Charles Njonjo, although a commission of inquiry had found him guilty of a number of serious offences.

In a speech marking the 21st anniversary of Kenya's independence, delivered at an open-air stadium here before a large ground, President Moi did not detail the allegations against Mr Njonjo which the commission said had been proved.

According to the original terms of reference, they included involvement in the 1982 attempted coup here, and in the abortive attempt to overthrow the Government of the Seychelles late in 1981.

Mr Njonjo was suspended *from the Cabinet early last year* and was later expelled from the ruling Kenya African National Union, after President Moi had complained that unnamed foreign powers – assumed to include Britain – were grooming another Kenyan to become President of Kenya.

Three High Court judges spent months hearing evidence of Mr Njonjo's alleged activities, completing their work last August. The commission was required to report to President Moi.

President Moi said after consideration he had taken the view that Mr Njonjo had served his country faithfully until some time in 1980, "when he started entertaining misguided political ambitions."

President Moi also announced the release of *nearly 5,000 prisoners*

Three killed in Beirut car bomb explosion

Beirut – At least three people were killed and seven were injured yesterday when a powerful car bomb exploded outside a Druse religious centre *in* west Beirut. (Our Correspondent writes).

Most of the victims were pedestrians or motorists who were outside the three-storey building. The bombing came on a third day of fighting between the Lebanese Army and Druse militiamen in the mountains overlooking Beirut.

Land lost under 1659 treaty

Agullana, Spain (Reuter) – The 600 people living here were confused and angry yesterday after Spain ceded 300 square metres of the town to France under the 1659 Treaty of the Pyrenese.

The only person directly *affected* is a geologist, Señor Juan Llanso, who holds a small plot of land at Agullana but lives in Barcelona. The town will lose his £60 a year local tax payment.

Guerrilla camp is overrun

Bangkok (Reuter). – Vietnamese troops have overrun a Cambodian guerrilla base at Sroc Sann near the Thai border, Thai military sources said.

Fighting continued as guerrillas regrouped for counter-attacks along the 450-mile border.

Implant costs

Louisville, Kentucky (AP) – *Mr* William Schroeder will not have to pay any bills for his artificial heart implant, but Humana Inc, which is underwriting the experiment, is talking to his insurance company hoping to recoup some of the expenses incurred before the operation.

'Spy' trial

Ho Chi Minh City, (AFP) – An espionage trial of about 20 Vietnamese accused of plotting to overthrow the Government opens here tomorrow, with the United States, China and Thailand all implicated, informed sources said.

Bombing charge

Islamabad, (Reuter) – Pakistan yesterday accused Afghanistan of again bombing its territory, saying two jets had dropped four bombs and fired rockets at Peiwar Kotel, a village close to a guerrilla supply route into Afghanistan.

Nazi's jail plea

Rome (AP) – Herr Walter Reder, a former Nazi major serving life in a military prison in Gaeta near Naples for killing more than 1,800 Italians in the Second World War, has sought the Pope's help to secure his release.

Poll violence

Delhi (Reuter) – An angry crowd stoned the Indian minister of state for commerce, Mr S. M. Krishna, and 20 political workers at an election meeting near Bangalore in southern Andhra Pradesh state, the Press Trust of India said.

Holiday truce

La Joya, El Salvador (Reuter). – Left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador said they would observe a truce for Christmas and New Year in their war against the Government.

Gunmen flee

Athens (A) – Mr Abdullah Yassin, aged 38, an attaché at the Syrian Embassy here, fired back at gunmen who attacked him at the seaside suburb of Kalamaki. The gunmen fled.

Absent Sindona

Milan (Reuter). – The Sicilian financer, Michele Sindona, in a telephone call from jail, has agreed to be tried in absentia on charges of fraud.

23 imprisoned

Ankara – Twenty-three Jehovah's Witnesses were jailed here on charges of "anti-secular activities".

Problems for two European Socialist parties

Spain: Nato stance puts González on spot

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Felipe González will mark today's opening of his Socialist Party's 30th conference with a strong defence of Spain's continued membership of Nato, even though he admits it is widely unpopular.

While the Prime Minister has shown that the Left can govern in Spain in difficult times, the conference is expected to be a good guide to exactly how much wear and tear there has been among the socialist rank and file. Some unrest can be expected with 400,000 more people unemployed than when the Socialists came to office, and the policies of Señor Miguel Boyer, the Economics Minister, increasingly concentrating on public sector inefficiency and the need to give private business more pofits.

Señor González's attempt to "sell Nato" while Spain's EEC membership is still in doubt worries delegates. But worker disenchantment with the Socialist record in office worries them even more.

Señor Nicholas Redondo, the socialist trade union leader who heads the Basque delegation, has threatened to bring to the fore labour unrest, which has led to more than a month of street violence over the Government's programme to restructure uncompetitive Spanish industries.

He has also promised to express the desire of many Spanish socialists for neutralism and a distrust of all defence alliances. He advocates upholding the previous conference stand of October 1981 for the party to campaign actively in the promised Nato referendum for complete Spanish withdrawal.

Señor Gonzalez announced his option of remaining in Nato but not going ahead with integration into its military structure to Parliament well ahead of the conference.

Now, as party secretary general, he has to carry a majority of the 769 delegates with him to lay the basis for the referendum promised by February 1986.

On television earlier this week the Prime Minister said he was "completely aware" that Spanish public opinion was against Nato. "If I had to decide about joining I do not believe I would have done so," he observed of the previous government's 1982 decision. "Now, when I think about maintaining the existing situation, I do so with my head, not with my heart."

"We shall certainly be expecting a full explanation from Felipe of his changed attitude towards Nato," a veteran Socialist delegate told me. "But if his reasons are good I reckon the delegates will be influenced".

The otugoing executive maintained yesterday that 70 per cent of the delegates would have endorsed Señor González's position by Sunday night, when the conference ends.

The Socialists are a highly disciplined party and the significance of being in power for the first time in their more than 100-year history has been hammered home at preparatory party gatherings for months.

The outgoing executive's draft policy bears little resemblance to Señor Goyer's actual decision. Even so it faces hundreds of proposed amendments.

As the conference will lay the basis for the party's programme at the next general election, the leadership is expected to make some concessions to a conference whose slogan is "Spain, a commitment to solidarity".

Outside the conference are the party's 162,000 rank and file, only 8 per cent of whom are under 25 and with everyday worries like rising costs and loss of jobs. In pre-government years membership reached almost 175,000.

That underlines the party's problem of keeping in step with society and how to retain as many as possible of the 10 million voters, many floating, that supported it two years ago. Señor González in the coming days must address these people as well as the well-drilled party delegates.

Bush calls for swift justice from Iran

Washington (Reuter) – The United States yesterday demanded that Iran bring the men who killed two Americans and tortured others onboard a hijacked Kuwaiti airliner "swiftly and surely to justice."

"Let us condemn terrorism for the brutal cowardice that it is," Vice-President George Bush said at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington, where he met the plane that brought home the bodies of the two murdered Americans.

"Let us resolve that civilized nations can and must resist terrorism and demand that governments have the decency to bring to justice terrorists, to bring them swiftly and surely to justice."

Mr Harry Clark, the British pilot of the Kuwaiti airliner, yesterday described the final moments of one of the victims, Charles Hegna, aged 50, a US Government employee.

"I think they maybe had the intention of making him speak on the radio. I do know that he was praying at the time. Then he was removed from the flight deck and the next thing I heard was a shot."

Mr Clark, who said he saw no evidence of Iranian complicity in the hijacking, said one of the airline staff was forced to act as translator during the "the main torture session" last Friday night. But he did not think either of the murdered Americans had been tortured.

● KUWAIT: The Government here is exploring legal means to make Iran hand over the hijackers, an official source said. (AFP reports).

Officials were looking at the 1970 Hague Convention on hijacking, whose signatories include Kuwait and Iran, as a way of seeking extraditions, the source said. Iran reportedly has said it will try the four hijackers.

● LONDON: Mrs Joyce Beeston, the wife of Mr Neil Beeston, the British flight engineer on the hijacked plane, flew to Kuwait from Heathrow yesterday with her son David to be reunited with her husband.

Mrs Beeston said: "It's the end of a nightmare for us.".

● NICOSIA: Iranian authorities foiled a plot last Saturday to hijack an Iranian airliner on a domestic flight and arrested all the plotters, the official Iran news agency said yesterday (AP reports).



Hijack grief: Mrs Edwina Hegna wiping away tears as she waits next to Vice-President Bush for the return of her husband's body at Edwards Air Force Base yesterday.

Two jolts needed to electrocute killer

Jackson, Georgia (AP) – Alpha Otis Stephens, convicted of murdering a man apparently survived the first jolt in the electric chair yesterday, but the current was turned on again to execute him.

A prescribed two-minute jolt of 2,000 volts failed to kill Stephens, so the warden, Mr Ralph Kemp, ordered that the procedure be repeated, and the condemned man was pronounced dead at 12.37am local time at the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Centre. He was the 20th person to be executed in the United States this year.

After the first charge, "he still had minor vital signs" a prison spokesman said. "When the physician noticed it, we hit him with a second jolt. It was standard procedure."

A trembling Stephens was strapped into the chair at 12.15am and shook his head when asked if he had a final statement. He bit his lips slightly and watched intently as he was prepared for execution.

At 12.18am, the first charge was applied. His head rolled slowly and his chest heaved. Two minutes later, the electricity was shut off, but he was still breathing.

The second charge began at 12.28am. Stephens' chest heaved agian and his head again rolled.

The charge was cut off at 12.30am, and his body was motionless.

France: Pressure for economic boost

From Diana Geddes, Paris

With its rigorous economic policy just biginning to show positive results, the French Government seems determined to resist calls from its supporters to relax its measures and give the economy a boost ahead of the critical 1986 parliamentary elections.

The Socialist Party's left-wing has long advocated reflation, but it came as a surprise when M André Laignel, party treasurer, and commonly identified with the mainstream, came out earlier this week in favour of what he termed a "selective" reflation to stop the Left lost further electoral support.

But M Lionel Jospin, party first secretary, made the Government's position clear, by saying: "Let us do what we believe to be just and pursue a policy with a perspective beyond 1986."



M Beregovoy: Hopes to end price controls

The Government's economic policies will be the central topic at the Socialist Party's two-day national convention on the theme of "Modernization and social progress", to be held just outside Paris this weekend.

Inflation in France is expected to be down to 7 per cent by the end of this year, half its level when the Socialists came to power in 1981. But it is significantly above the Government's original target of 5 per cent, and still far too high in comparison with France's main trading partners.

The Government's target for next year is 4.5 per cent. Wages in the public sector are to be kept to that level, as are increases in dividends and public tariffs, while public services and those industrial prices still controlled by the Government are due to rise on average by only 3 per cent.

Two-thirds of industrial prices have now been freed from Government controls, and M Pierre Bérégovoy, the Finance Minister, is talking about the possibility of freeing the remaining prices by the beginning of 1986.

One of the Government's greatest economic successes has been to break the traditional system of indexing wages to the rise in prices, with little trouble from the unions. Nearly all wage increases this year have been within the Government's 5 per cent guidelines, well below the inflation rate.

A side effect, however, has been that overall net incomes have hardly risen at all this year, after actually falling slightly in 1983. That has resulted in a virtual stagnation of consumer spending, hitting those firms with a largely domestic market.

Export industries are doing comparatively well, and industrial profits overall this year are up 25 per cent in cash terms, higher than for a long time. Industrial investment has also picked up, rising by an estimated 9 per cent in volume this year, the biggest increase for more than a decade.

The trade deficit, which reached a record 93 billion francs (£8 billion) two years ago, is expected to fall to about 30 billion francs this year, while the current account deficit is expected to fall below 10 billion francs. The Government hopes to bring the trade deficit into balance, or even produce a small surplus by the end of 1985.

But the foreign debt of 469 billion francs remains embarrassingly high, and independent forecasters feel France is unlikely to have sufficiently solid current account surplus to meet the increasing number of debt repayments which will fall due from 1986 onwards.

The Government aims for 1.8 per cent economic growth next year, up from an estimated 1.3 per cent this year, and 1 per cent last year. But the situation is still very delicate.

Chadian forces must act first, Mitterrand says

Bujumbura, Burundi (AP) – President Mitterrand said yesterday that if there were any French military operations in northern Chad in future, the Chadian forces of President Hissène Habré "Would have to go in first."

Asked to elaborate at a press conference after a two-day French-African summit, the French President replied: "Habré is his own master. He is free to act in his country as he wishes. Wait and see."

M Mitterrand declined to comment on a private discussion he had with President Habré earlier in the day and told a questioner: "The meeting was between us and I have nothing to say about it."

At the summit, several moderate African leaders were reported to have pressed President Mitterrand in vain for a commitment to give security guarantees to French-speaking Africa in addition to the six countries which already have mutual defence agreements with France. M Mitterrand emphasized that Chad was not one of these countries, and he told the summit the French task force was sent to Chad last year in keeping with "a global concept of equilibrium in Africa."

Zia promises to step down if he loses poll

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, said that if the people's verdict in the December 19 referendum went against him: "I shall step down after handing over power", according to a report of a press conference in Lahore on Tuesday night.

The referendum is on his Islamic reforms and programmes and seeks a mandate to rule Pakistan for the next five years.

The report on Tuesday's press conference does not say to whom he would hand over power. Earlier, however, Raja Zafrul Haq, the Information Minister, had stated that if the referendum were lost, General Zia would continue in power until he was able to conduct parliamentary elections and nominate a prime minister, ideally by spring next year.

General Zia reportedly described the referendum as a religious obligation in conformity with Islam and a necessity for strengthening the country's stability. He denied that it was devised to perpetuate his rule. It was intended to pave the way for a transfer of power.

BOOKS

The writer at war with love

James Fenton reviews the life and hard lines and jealousies of rising Lawrence

THE LETTERS OF D. H. LAWRENCE
Volume Three, 1916-21
Edited by James T. Boulton and Andrew Robertson
Cambridge, £25

Manufacturers of the product may be interested to know that D. H. Lawrence used Kolynos toothpaste. He also thought German asparagus to be the best in the world (in this he was deceived, mistaking size for quality). He always used porters at railway stations, but he preferred not to have anything by way of a home help. When he did the housework in Sicily he washed the floor in the nude. These are some of the items of trivial interest to be gleaned from 730 pages of his letters – from that is, the latest volume of what will be a seven-volume complete edition.

It has to be said that a great deal of what is contained here is very short on abiding interest. Those who wish to follow in detail the full and complex story of Lawrence's relations with his publishers will find most of the evidence here assembled: but for most people it is enough to know that during the years covered by this volume Lawrence the novelist was finding it extremely hard to get into print, let alone make any money. In the year before the Great War he earned £450, but during 1917-18 he was making do on a quarter of this amount. At one point, such was the difficulty of finding publishers, he even tried to place *Women In Love* with Mills & Boon.

The sourness of his attitude to England and its literary establishment may be partly explained by this enraged sense of rejection: coupled with ill-health and persecution by the locals in Cornwall (on the apparent grounds that they thought he and his wife Freda were spies), the circumstances were enough to put a man in a rage. And yet the rage goes beyond the obvious and reasonable provocation. It undermines the sincerity of his friendships, and it exacerbates his enmities.

In the first part of this volume, we hear nothing but filth of Middleton Murry and Katherine Mansfield. In the central section there is a reprieve. Murry is editor of the *Athenaeum*, and his wife becomes recipient of some of Lawrence's best, most vivid letters. But then Murry rejects Lawrence's articles for his magazine, and the taps of fury are turned on full:

. . . what it amounts to is that you are a dirty little work, and you take the ways of a dirty little worm. But now let me tell you at last that I know it – not that it's anything new: and let it be plainly understood between you and me, that I consider you a dirty little work: and so, deposit your dirty bit of venom where you like; at any rate we know what to expect".

So much for Murry. For Mansfield, the message was just a trifle more cruel: "I loathe you, you revolt me stewing in your consumption." He considered that her disease was her fault. Did he also think that his disease was his fault? We shall find out in volume 7. Almost the last reference to Katherine in this volume describes her as "doing her last gasp touch in order to impose on people". He seems to have envied her gifts as well as her disease.

In a more tangential case you can understand this enviousness. When he encounters Compton Mackenzie on Capri after the war, Lawrence is at first friendly, then satirical about the adulation Mackenzie gets from Francis Brett-Young. Finally Capri is too small for all of them. Lawrence calls it a stew pot of semi-literary cats". He likes Mackenzie "as a man but not as an influence. I can't stand his island". Unmistakably here, Lawrence can't bear living in the shadow of a famous and rich novelist, when he is not yet rich or famous enough. He goes off to Sicily, where he hears that Brett-Young has bought a house at the opposite end of Capri from Mackenzie. He imagines the two of them with the island between their teeth pulling like mad. But such competitiveness is clearly originally his.

Though you can understand the professional envy, it is more difficult to follow Lawrence in his rages against his friends. When Mary Cannan, one of the correspondents with whom Lawrence has always appeared to be on very friendly terms, decides to bob her hair and give herself the Twelve Pound Look, he goes off at the deep end:

She's cut her hair. One day it thundered and lighted and was very Etnaish, and it got on her nerves all alone in the studio, so she went out and bobbed herself. Freda says it suits her, but ever since I can't bear the sight of her. It brings out all the pseudo-mannish street-Arab agressive selfish insolence which affects me nowadays, as a male, like somebody throwing black pepper in my eyes. I plainly hate her.

At first as is often the case with Lawrence you think he must be joking. But then it all gets too much:

Conceit, hideous, elderly, megalomaniac sexual conceit, that's what ails these elderly scavenging bitches. If Etna had any sense of fitness he'd spit a fat mouthful of lava at her.

By now you feel it really must have been quite a hair cut.

But this capacity for hatred was turned by Lawrence into the motor power of a philosphy. On more than one occasion he shows that he doubts the possibility of friendship for him, and in the last letter of the volume he turns his scorn against love itself:

Why is everybody always caring so hard about somebody else? Why not leave off? In short, why not have done with Jesus and with love and have a shot at conscious proud power. Why not soldiers, instead of lovers? Why not laugh, and spit in the eye of love. Really, why not laugh? As for the absolute I have no absolute but myself. And as for vision – two a penny, three a penny, mine go cheap. Kick the posterior of creeping love, and laugh when it wimpers. Pah, it is a disease love . . . . give me henceforth Mars, and a free flight.

This is a most striking note on which to end a volume that began with Lawrence hoping for the Great War and wanting nothing to do with it. It is impossible though for a man in his early thirties to ignore the fact that his country is at war and that men of his age are dying in such numbers. Lawrence's own attitude, which was neither pacifist nor in any sense articulate, amounted to mere egotism: the war was getting in his way. He could not believe that America would become involved. It would be a catastrophe if he did. And the reason why it would be a catastrophe is quite simply that Lawrence wanted to go to America to live.

Every time he is called for a medical examination he goes into a paroxysm of misery, but it is only in the last weeks of the war that he is classified as fit for "secondary work". In a way the war has rejected him. He could not have been a part of it if he had wanted to, and this knowledge is most galling to him. He had failed to kill – and if he had failed as a killer, how could he succeed as a lover?



Classic prophetess, and weightlessness

FICTION

Nicholas Shakespeare

CASSANDRA
By Crista Wolf
Virago, £10.95

SO LONG, AND THANKS FOR ALL THE FISH
By Douglas Adams
Pan, £6.95

LAUGHING PIG AND OTHER STORIES
By Peter Regent
Robin Clark, £7.95

It's often depressing to discover the stuff of which dreams are made. A story goes that Yeats took some of the images for his *Byzantium* from the frieze around Stockholm's town hall when he went to collect his Nobel Prize. Another little beginning with a big end was Keats's Grecian urn, according to one version a species of chamberpot art with vulgar bulges and bumps. The short novel *Cassandra*, by the East German writer Crista Wolf, is just a further example of the gap between an artist's inspiration and his art.

It is the hour of Cassandra's death. While her Greek captors drink in the citadel, this daughter of the King of Troy looks back on her life – from the moment Apollo spat in her mouth the gift of prophecy, and the catch that no one would believe her. She remembers how, limbs twitching, lips foaming, throat gurgling, she broadcast not the usual weather forecasts but unconventional bulletins: that "no one can win a war waged for a phantom" (Helen having scarpered with the King of Egypt), and that Troy would fall. She recalls the war; how, before her eyes "Achilles the brute" strangled one brother – Troilus – and dragged another – Hector – round the fortress till he became a chunk of meat. And she brings reluctantly to mind the "voluptuousness of self-destruction" – the night her sister Polyxena walked along the city wall and bared her breast to Achilles, and how Achilles drooled. Finally, having refused to flee with Aeneas, the sole man she ever loves, Cassandra faces her own destruction.

Cassandra is a powerful recreation of classical myth by a modern master. She is believable, alive, and shuddering with the author's obsession with her. What makes the reader shudder are four essays which follow, explaining this obsession – a diary, a letter and the two-part record of a Greek holiday. With the same mad energy as Schliemann proved, against popular thought, that Troy existed, so Crista Wolf tries to show how Cassandra, in her capacity as seer (normally a man's job), was "the first professional working woman in literature".

On a trip to Greece in 1980, Wolf can't see the modern world for the ancient. She drinks retsina and imagines banquets. She stands in the ruins where Cassandra stood and beams her up from the underworld. She even meets Helen, not of Troy but of Columbus, Ohio – a girl anxious to prove "women called the tune in Crete and that the Minoans were better for it". And all the time Wolf relentlessly implies she is herself an incarnation of her heroine, shrieking about the arms race and much else to deaf ears. The fiction distilled from this is worth reading. It's just sad the author prefers the course of her obsession to its fruit; what went into her waste-paper-basket to what was saved from it.

Just the idea of Douglas Adam's waste-paper-basket is enough to make one foam and gurgle. The original inspiration for his *Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* was a night spent gazing drunkenly at the stars from a camp site in Innsbruck. The inspiration, by the time of this "fourth book in the Hitch-hiker trilogy" (sic), is beginning to wear off. In fact *So Long, And Thanks For All The Fish* is a novel not so much space-lagged as so light you have to hold it down.

Adams's effects come from pitting the values of the universe against those of the supermarket, and he has some good lines. However, bored by his narrative he tends to thrive on red herrings. The result is an absence of gravity and a work in which bits and pieces of different sketches orbit round a non-existent plot. As the last line says, "There was a point of this story but it has temporarily escaped the chronicler's mind."

Peter Regent's *Laughing Pig and other stories* is a bright distinctive first collection about the attempts of clumsy voyeurs to enter a sensuous world. A clergyman on holiday in Greece is seduced by a girl who turns out to be an ancient goddess. A man addicted to strip-shows finds himself one lunchtime ogling his own daughter. When Regent has his eye on Dahl, he gives his stories such violent twists, they lose their heads. When he keeps his own, he can be both acute and deft.

THRILLERS

Tim Heald

SAN ANDREAS
By Alistair Maclean
(Collins, £8.95)

The last Alistair Maclean I read seemed a burned out case – thin and unconvincing – and I had a sense that the old warhorse was simply past his best and going through the motions without conviction. Here, praise be, he's back at sea in World War Two and the faculties seem miraculously restored.

There are saboteurs aboard a British Hospital ship in fiendish frozen seas somewhere off Norway. "Heavy snow, thirty knot wind and visibility zero." Jerry in somewhere about, down below in a U Boat and up above in a flying machine called a Condor; but the Geneva Convention says you don't attack ships with red crosses on them and even Jerry...But, no, the dastardly Kraut comes straight at them out of the cloud and bombs the bridge. Blood and rubble everywhere but somehow the gallant ship remains afloat.

Can the survivors (including dauntless nursing sisters in the hospital below decks) fight off the combined might of the Luftwaffe and Admiral Doenitz's boys in blue? Who are the traitors on board? Is the good German as good as he seems? Or the bosun as brave? Why does Sister Morrison not smile very much? Should there be quite so much Scotch in the medicine cupboard? How did Dr Singh find such a good bottle of Bordeaux? And why has an Italian waiter called Mario apparently escaped from the Savoy Grill?

Maestro Maclean answers the most important of these questions as his stricken heroes and heroines limp towards their beleaguered homeland with their lips stiff and their flags flying. It's quite like old times as the Yarnspinner Laureate shows that he still knows how to shiver our timbers.

● **The Dolphin Shore, by Phyllida Barstow** (*Century, £8.95.*) I think there should be more lady thriller writers, a few grown-up Angela Brazils and Enid Blytons to counteract the humourless violence and remorseless plodding of the males. Ms Barstow tells of a little girl lost on the villain infested Turkish seas. There is a jolly hockey stick air about our first person heroine. When someone nicks some papers Stella is frightfully cross – "fuming and puzzling" no less. The theft is "brazen impudence". There is death and destruction – "Explosives? Armenians? I put a hand to my head" – but you don't have to pay too much attention because you know perfectly well this is just one of those stories girls frighten each other with after lights out in the dorm. It's a very NICE little book. Anaemic, maybe, but it makes a change.

● **The Andropov Deception, by John Rossiter** (*The Sherwood Press, £6.95.*) Brian Crozier is an expert. His area of expertise is the sort of East-West relations which are meat and drink to many modern thriller writers. Alas it seems in this case at least that the skills are not transferable. And I am unclear about why Mr Crozier has adopted the name of John Rossiter, an accomplished author and Committee Member of the Crime Writers' Association. If I were the real John Rossiter I should be most unamused to find my name on a book like this. Next time I write a book I shall call myself Jeffrey Archer.

Yet more shrieks and floods

Patrick Garland

THE HOUSE OF MITFORD
By Jonathan Guinness
Hutchinson, £12.95

As early as the first book of Moses, Wystan Auden assures us, it was man's first impulse, upon confronting an unexpected animal or plant, to give it a name: the characteristic of the seven Mitford children would be to give it a nick-name – especially a member of the family. Nick-names abound throughout Jonathan Guinness's, and his daughter Catherine's book: and the element of wild mockery, alternately admiring and sharp, pervades this saga of a family who still persist in arousing our enthusiasm and reproach. This is the latest in the collection of Mitfordiana which Deborah, Duchess of Devonshire, and youngest daughter, calls "the Industry" with the same nonchalance that she refers to her great house, Chatsworth, as "the Dump".

A family friend noted the seven Mitfords were forever breaking out into shouts of laughter, or breaking down in floods of tears, and amid the shouts and floods, often initiated by Nancy, a profusion of breathless nicknames emerge with the imaginative precision of Captain Gronow's memoirs, or the Drones Club. His brothers and sisters called the *second Lord Redesdale The* Old Ape, his children called him The Poor Old Male, Forgery, and Farve: his wife, The Poor Old Female, and Muv: Nancy was Blob Nose, Octopus Untruth, and The Old French Lady: Pamela was Woman, or Woomling: the only son, Tom, Tud or Tuddamy: Diana, an unlikely Aunt Honks; Unity, a predictable Valkyrie (even in pre-Nazi days); Jessica was the attractive Decca, or Little D; Deborah, Debo, or Stubby; or The Nine-Year-Old, supposedly, and unconvincingly, referring to her mental age; and there were countless others from the benign Old Tollgater, for Nancy's first husband, Peter Rodd, to Von und Zu for the less than benign Hermann Goering.

Jonathan Guinness, eldest of the two sons of Diana Mitford, by her first husband the poet, Bryan Guinness, has set the glamorous Mitford Girls (in John Betjeman's catch phrase of the thirties) and their easily overlooked brother, Tom, within the context of the previous generations. To achieve a historical perspective Mr Guinness spends a couple of hundred pages of relatively flat family history devoted to the maternal and paternal grandfathers, and the Redesdales emerge as surprisingly recent aristocrats despite their ancient-sounding name. Both Grandfathers betrayed hints of oddity about hygiene, house-building, diet, children, and the medical profession, which emerge with such bravura in grand-daughter Nancy's novels, and a great deal of Uncle Matthew's idiosyncrasy can be seen in the behaviour of David Bertram Ogilvy Mitford, the second Lord.

He was the one who, among other furiously held convictions, disputed the right of *women to enter the House of* Lords, because they might monopolize the only lavatory; and who believed that to abolish the Upper House would undermine the very foundations of Christianty.

The truth is, the six sisters – one has to leave out Tom, the enigmatic brother, who was killed in Burma in the last year of the war – for all their snobbery, affectation, and silliness, their teases, unrepentant brightness, and even the unmistakeable "Mitford voice", described as "a sort of sagging" – are outstanding and extraordinary in almost every way. They fall generously into the category of people who, had they not existed, could not have provoked invention. Mr Guinness is right to say, Nancy's light fiction apart, the sisters' own writings are devoted largely to point-making and axe-grinding, often defensive positions adopted by the C.P. Jessica-lion, against the N.S.P. Diana-unicorn. "Oh, dear" complained Nancy to Unity, with justification, "I wish I had never been born into a family of fanatics . . oh, dear!" For indeed she was, and there is always the awkward spectre of Unity, and the uneasy wartime role of Lady Mosley to confront her, and us.

Mr Guinness remembers his Aunt Bobo (Unity) well, and found in her life on Inchkenneth island the division of angry child and wounded adult unnerving, following her botched suicide attempt in the Englischer Garten in Munich."

Not for nothing, even in fun, did her sharp, adoring sister, Nancy, address Unity as: "Head of bone, heart of stone . . .". Much later, her friend Mrs Hammersley wrote to Nancy, à propos of her hero-worship of De Gaulle: "You Mitfords like dictators!" To which Nancy replied firmly: "I do not!" Nor clearly does the Duchess of Devonshire, and her sister, Pamela Jackson, visiting Unity in 1935 in Munich for the Oktoberfest, found Hitler, "very ordinary, like an old farmer in *his khaki suit*", *which speaks* well for Mitford common sense.

There are one or two infelicities: Henry Yorke's novels are described as "appealing to a minority, but will never be forgotten"; and rather too many celebrities "come" to Diana's house at Biddesden or Highbury, "Brian Howard came, of course", and "a London acquaintance who never actually came was Tom Driberg, very left-wing and indefatigably homosexual . . .". Otherwise, as in Nancy's introduction to her edition of the Stanley family letters: "Here is the picture of a dead world, past and gone . . . now that the music has stopped, its echo must have a nostalgic charm . . .". Evelyn Waugh, a month before he died, wrote in a letter to Lady Mosley: "All you Mitfords seem to have great stamina". Yes. They have.

Chase my chasuble, alb and orphreys

Roy Strong

A HISTORY OF ECCLESIASTICAL DRESS
By Janet Mayo
Batsford, £20

It is true to say that passions are still aroused by clerical dress; although those halcyon days when one used to get a *frissom* in tracking down Anglican High Mass with the celebrant in a fiddle-backed chasuble are gone for ever. The sight of vestments at the altar can still move a congregation to murmur if not revolt. One wonders what their reaction would have been to the Earl Bishop of Bristol in purple with diamond knee and shoe buckles and a hat of the Volunteers on his head parading around Rome at the turn of the eighteenth century.

Janet Mayo's *A History of Ecclesiastical Dress* is a useful tour of this subject. It is a bit like one of those packages which offer the traveller five countries in seven days, because here we hurtle through nearly 2,000 years of Christianity in just under 200 pages. Admittedly she opts out of the Church Universal, or rather its western branch, at the sixth century and settles on the British Isles or rather England, for Scotland and Wales barely figure.

Nothing is more maddening in histories of dress than verbal descriptions of articles of clothing minus illustration. This book could have been so much better if it had omitted some of its half-tone blocks, many of which are from continental sources anyway, and presented a set of diagrams and patterns for each period and garment. The glossary does not make up for this lack and in any case it is woefully lacking in references.

Although medieval *opus anglicanum* is a well ploughed field, the revival of ecclesiastical embroidery prompted by the ritualist movement in the last century is little explored and certainly deserved serious study. These items were designed by figures of the stature of William Morris and Sir Ninian Comper (here Cowper) and are of quite outstanding quality.

Indeed the book's most interesting contribution is to chart what happened in post-Reformation England. Copes and surplices went on although denounced as "popish rags". What does emerge is that the clergy are about as much controlled by the edicts of the Church as the laity were by sumptuary laws. It has always had and still has its dandies. Even in 1429 the Bishop of St David's was lamenting that "in this country clergy, have no fixed habit assigned to them, either in shape or colour, and therefore may wear any kind of dress which is suitable to their state". On the whole the clergy are meant to look dowdy and with this as an objective they are in the main successful.

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ADVERTISEMENT

How Whitehall decides whether local councils are on target.



Every year Whitehall sets spending targets for local authorities throughout the country.

This year, under the new ratecapping laws, these targets have become absolute spending limits for those authorities on the so-called "government hit-list."

So it is more important than ever to understand how Whitehall sets its targets in the first place.

According to the 1984 Audit Commission Report (a government document) they are based on information that is inadequate and out of date.

Which is bad enough. But matters are made worse by the fact that Whitehall sets more than one target for each authority.

There's one based on its assessment of general needs throughout the country. And another based on precedents of needs and spending in each area.

The difference between the two is often quite staggering. For example, an authority which actually underspent one target by 4 per cent were judged to be 82 per cent overspenders against the other target.

Whitehall also has the power to put its own value on particular local needs, or to increase or decrease money allowed for exceptional cases.

So it can and does treat prosperous and poor communities differently. But not quite in the way you might expect.

For example, the biggest overspender in the country (according to government figures) is the extremely affluent City of London. Yet the City of London will not be ratecapped.

The most deprived borough in the country (again according to a government assessment) will be ratecapped.

Even though its spending plans are decidedly modest by comparison, and its needs enormous.

So Whitehall not only makes the rules, it applies them in arbitrary, inefficient and unjust ways.

And as nobody can vote out a Whitehall civil servant, the traditional democratic means of ensuring fair play no longer apply.

Ratecapping makes no sense.

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SPECTRUM

Turning non-stop trivia into an art form

The Times Profile: Terry Wogan

Terry Wogan breaks off from the conversation, swivels in his chair, flicks a switch and says into a microphone: "Yes, I'm sure you are." He is replying to the refrain of *Devoted To You*, which everybody else in the studio had forgotten.

About four million Radio 2 listeners are tuned in, however, and Wogan, half listening behind the off-the-air studio chatter, is ready. A finely-honed reflex has swung into action, but *with the Wogan voice back on* the air the mechanical perfection of his movements is replaced by fumbling, a few hummed bars and the shuffling of papers.

He has little idea about what is to happen next. He alights on a listener's letter. It proposes that a new roundabout should be named after him. He laughs, improvises a little on the idea, flicks on the next record and swivels back into the conversation.

The irony is that almost all of those four million listeners could not care less about *Devoted To You* or any of the music in his two-and-a-half hour show. They switch on and they stay switched on because of Wogan. The show is about music in the same sense that *Dallas* is about oil: not at all.

'I was pioneer of the radio pause. I never subscribed to the view that there should be noise all the time'

Wogan himself is indifferent to most of the records and never listens to music at home. The records are there just to provide breathing space between his flights of fancy and listeners' letters.

It is all done, he explains, "on the wing". He works without notes and the first glimpse he has of the letters is when he picks them up to read on the air. Hence the unusual number of pauses on his show. "I pioneered the pause on radio," he claims. "I never subscribed to the view that there had to noise all the time: you should give people time to think."

It is a breathtaking high-wire act of broadcasting technique, but after 12 years nobody believes that Terry is about to fall accidentally. He is preparing to jump off deliberately, however. On 28 December he is to leave Radio 2 to prepare for his three-nights-a-week television chat show, which starts in February on BBC1. The announcement that this was about to happen doubled his weekly mail from 1,000 to 2,000 letters, most playing along with his little conceit that he had been sacked.

Perhaps one of the most impressive tributes to the way in which Wogan has moulded his radio audience is the number of letters written in flawless Woganese, an ironic, mockingly pompous dialect of English especially suited to the elaboration of private fantasies.

There was, for example, the prolonged debate between Wogan and his public about why, if the earth was spinning, it was not possible simply to rise off the ground in a balloon and wait for Hawaii to come round. Or what would happen if a hole was dug through to Australia and Wogan jumped down it? It was popularly assumed that he would land lightly on his feet on Bondi Beach.

The essence of the Wogan style lies in his ability to transform any crisis into a fragment of witty triviality. Nothing that can go wrong cannot be laughed off. His characteristic movement is a *light, athletic skip, contrasting* ironically with his burly build. His typical gag is the thinly-veiled put-down, then palliated effortlessly by self-deprecation. With Wogan in charge the pleasure lies in the discovery that he has forgotten to put a record on the turntable and hearing how he extricates himself.

Then, of course, there is the daily patter with Jimmy Young, the disc jockey whose show follows his. Ostensibly Young is coming in to plug his own show, but he is there really for the backchat. Young enters, stands over Wogan's desk and tries to run idly through his schedule. Wogan decries, guffaws, snorts and hurls insults. Young fights back, ever more gamely as the years have gone by: then they both retire unscathed.

All over the country, housewives go back to the children, and motorists notice that the lights have been green for some time. It is a national event, a daily ritual.

Wogan winds up the show just as the clock shows 10am. Wind-ups are sensitive moments. Poorly handled they can cause a sickening loss of listeners between programmes. "Was that too slick?" he asks with perhaps calculated nervousness. "I don't like it too slick."

"Nice programme, Ter", says the producer. What else could he say? Wogan has created the market, defined the criteria. Producers do not have the vocabulary to cope with unarguable success.

Next on this particular morning is a recording for Irish television to be transmitted at Christmas. The white broadcasting lie on this occasion is that he is speaking live, so he *calmly recreates his Christmas* Day for the benefit of the old country without a flicker of uncertainty at his little illusion. Gloria Hunniford, who is recorded next, is not so good: a shadow crosses her face as she makes the effort to lie.

Next, accompanied by a small and slightly baffling entourage, it is coffee at St Georges Hotel, which overlooks Broadcasting House. Waiters are solicitous, and guests and passers-by pause to note The Presence. Wogan is an environment, partly because of the pervasive quality of radio, but also because the world feels it has a claim on his personality. He is like British Telecom, only every share is different. Some get the reference to James Joyce when he calls Young "the old artificer"; other sense that he is theirs to the point where they feel jealous of Sophia Loren and Raquel Welch when they appear on his show.

As he calms down from the dutiful gregariousness, the shifting roles he plays for each person he meets, the anxiety about the television series begins to emerge. He knows he is better at radio – the medium that has nurtured and fed his enormous popularity. Cutting loose at the age of 46 is an awesome prospect, but there is a curious invulnerability about Wogan and it is this which seems to lie at the heart of his success.

He was born into a middle-class household in Limerick. *His father managed a grocery* store and was subsequently promoted to a better job in Dublin. Wogan had "the sense beaten into me" by the Jesuits at Belvedere, Joyce's old school, and made his way into Irish broadcasting via banking and a seemingly unproductive year studying philosophy.

'The BBC have Robin Day, Esther Rantzen, the Two Ronnies and me. The other side have old BBC people not working well'

With his wife, Helen, and his first son, Alan, he gambled on Britain in 1969 as stand-in for Jimmy Young on BBC radio. A first child, a daughter, had died at the age of three weeks, a tragedy that seems to stand oddly alone in his largely untroubled progress.

Since then his rise to the top has been relentless. Some years after being given his own radio show, he tested the water in television via chat shows and *Blankety-Blank*, a game show of transcendent banality.

Throughout he gives the impression of moving systematically towards a style which would allow him simply to be himself, to be allowed to ad-lib and subvert mildly to his heart's content. This can be done only with the full confidence of the industry itself. Turning up scriptless and unprepared is not something you can foist on the the average producer.

"It's the only small talent I have", he says. "You can look at research, but not for too long. An interview is an interview. The important thing is what you get out of the person."

The real point, however, is that, deeply as Wogan thinks about what he is doing, it is the mountain that has come to him. The personality, for the moment, works, and broadcasting has had to adapt to accommodate him, not the other way round. In part this has been an inevitable step. The theatrical traditions of British broadcasting had long worn thin with their patronising and highly prepared approach. Wogan does not have a single drop of threatrical blood in his reins and believes that television and radio trickery should be dispensed with. "It's not an audience out there: an audience is when somebody laughs in the stalls and then somebody else laughs in the circle. But with radio, if somebody laughs in Stoke Poges it doesn't mean listeners are going to smile in Barnsley.

"I believe the way to do radio is without an excessive sense of the technicalities. I've never thought it mattered tuppence whether the record was playing at the right speed."

Transferring this art – pauses, fumbles and all – to television may prove impossible. Yet he is determined. He wants the show to be live. "What you are paid for is walking in off the street and being able to talk. What the hell is the point of appearing in front of a camera – for which you are being paid a lot of money – carrying a big clipboard? Anybody could do that."

Simple as this may sound, it creates immense difficulties: guests who dry up, rows, and the problem of finding a sufficiently flexible style of direction to cope. Furthermore, most American guests on the chat show circuit are profoundly intimidated when they hear that Wogan will not provide a list of questions.

Wogan knows the problem well enough and points out defensively that a seemingly prickly customer like *Dallas* star Victoria Principal has already recorded a second interview with him for broadcasting at Christmas. He was, however, helped by some unexpected *prompting*.

"She was in Los Angeles and I was in London, and the fellow who was photographing her in LA had a male nude *Playgirl* centrefold which he was unrolling in front of her. The whole interview is punctuated by hysterical giggles. It was a better interview for all that."

But he knows he works best on television with the home team of guests who know his style, who know what to expect in the way of mild offence. Woganese is a private language, known to several millions, but private nonetheless, and it takes years of training to become fluent.

He thinks his British audience has now had enough tuition to accept him on television, but there are two dangers – that the vocabulary is too narrow to cope with the huge variety of guests required for a three-times-a-week chat show, and that the magic will simply cease to function.

The end would not come overnight. The momentum is too great and there is a lot of instututional backing. "Obviously we want it to be right. There's an awful lot riding on it. If it doesn't work it means that Michael Grade and Bill Cotton have made a big mistake and, not only that, they've wasted me. They've destroyed probably one of their biggest assets. They have Robin Day, Esther Rantzen, the Two Ronnies and me. What does the other side have? A lot of old BBC people who are not working as well as they did at the BBC".

Therein lies the final invulnerability. Wogan, big as he is, is not really taking the risks. He merely turns up propless, apart from his personality, and it either works or it doesn't.

'A lot of my work is very banal very trivial, and I recognize it's only TV or radio, hardly brain surgery'

Directors, producers, managers or someone else could get it wrong and fritter away that asset, but Wogan is confident that *it* persists – that bond between him and his public. Throughout his conversation, throughout his version of himself, there is the perpetual disclaimer: "Here I am, take me or leave me."

"I'm not a go-getter, "he said." I'm not a person who knocks on doors. It either has to happen for me, or I walk away from it. It's the same in relationships. I don't worry about money either as long as there is enough of it. People talk about pressure in show business. What pressure? There is some, but it's not insurmountable and you're well-cushioned by the money you're being paid. People can always lose TV series, but they retain a certain popularity so I don't think I'm ever going to starve. I don't care that much. I recognise that it's only TV or radio . . . it's not brain surgery. A lot of the work I do is trivial, it's very banal."

Back at home, near Maidenhead, with his wife and three children, he avoids talk about work and they hardly ever watch his shows.

The huge burden of identity normally given by Ireland to its sons seems lightly borne: "Oh, I always get the same question; 'How do you feel about' the bomb at Harrods? Well, you feel about twice as bad as anybody else."

Although his wife remains a practising Catholic, with Wogan the Jesuits failed to imprint their idea of identity: it leaves *an eloquent void behind all the* "personality". "I still read about religion a lot," he says. "I'm interested to know about the facts I was meant to accept, but I left almost 20 years ago. Now I don't know what I am. . . ."

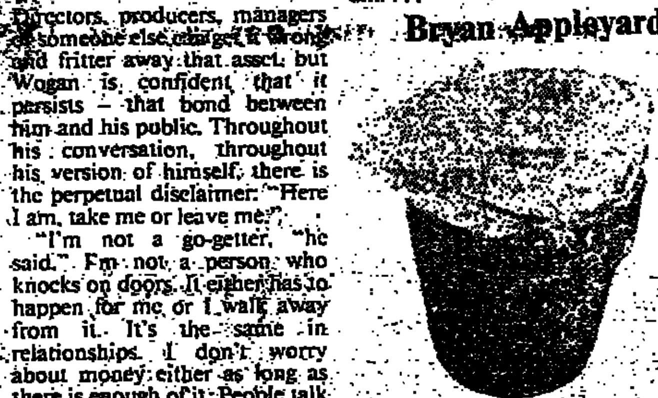
Bryan Appleyard

Picture: Brian Harris



Flying the airwaves by the seat of his pants. Wogan in his studio with 'rival' Jimmy Young

The Charmer at work: "I don't like it too slick."



The day's over: Wogan's mail reaches the bin

HIS CAREER

1938: Born August 3 in Limerick. Educated Crescent College, Limerick, and Belvedere College, Dublin.
1963: Joined RTE as announcer.
1965-67: Involved in various programmes for BBC Radio.
1965: Married Helen Joyce.
1969: The Wogans and their first son, Alan, move permanently to London.
1972: Takes over breakfast show on Radio 2.
1973: Variety Club BBC Radio Personality of the Year.
1977: Reaches number 15 in the charts with his recording of *The Floral Dance*.
1982: First *Wogan* chat show.
1979-84: *TV Times* television Personality of the Year six years running.
1979/80/82: Radio Industry Club Award, Radio Personality of the Year.
1982: Pye Award for Radio Personality of the Year.
Lives with wife, two sons and one daughter at Taplow, Buckinghamshire, describes himself in *Who's Who* as "jobbing broadcaster", lists recreations as tennis, golf, swimming, reading and writing and clubs as Lord's Taverners, London Irish Rugby Football, Stoke Poges Golf and Temple Golf.
Publications: *Banjaxed* (1979), *The Day Job* (1981) and *To Horse, To Horse* (1982).

Broken, but not rib-cracking

moreover . . . Miles Kington

Hello, it's skiing time again! And we all know what that means, don't we? *(Writes Uncle Rudi, your unbearable guide to the piste).* Yes, snow, and pine trees, and blue skies, but above all – breaking your leg! That's what skiing is all about. You're out there, carelessly swooping down the lonely slope through the lovely trees when suddenly – crack! you're over and you have broken your leg.

Well, there's nobody in sight, because you've gone off on that lovely deserted run, and you've got to do something about it yourself, so I'm going to tell you now how to deal with it. Memorize this article immediately. Better still, take it with you and get it out when you've broken your leg . . .

Hello! Just broken your leg, have you? Don't panic. What you have got to do is straighten your leg as far as possible and then tie one ski to it as a splint. This will mean using your bootlaces to tie the ski on with. The other ski you can use as a crutch to hobble home with.

Unfortunately your boots will now fall off because you've taken the laces out. Also, the ski will be far too long to use as a splint, not to mention a crutch, so you will have to saw them down to the right length.

This means you should have brought with you spare boot laces, a saw and sandpaper. Did you? You didn't? Goodness, you are in trouble, aren't you? Perhaps we'd better bring in a real doctor.

Hello *(writes a hospital administrator)*. Sorry we couldn't get a real doctor, but he was out playing golf. Anyway, there you are with a broken leg on a deserted Alp. The first question you ask yourself is: Am I properly insured? And did I bring the documents with me or did I leave them behind with the saw, boot laces and sandpaper?

The next question is: Is my injury serious enough to warrant getting a doctor out? You know, a lot of hospital time is wasted by people who really aren't ill, or who have a simple ailment that their chemist could deal with.

So before you get a doctor out to look at your leg and cause us endless trouble and rescheduling of appointments: have a chemist look at it. A lot of these chaps are very good. Don't bother us. Get a chemist. The French for chemist, by the way is *pharmacien*. Not at all. Glad to have helped. Cheers.

Cheers! *(writes Jeremy, barman at the Coconut Glades).* While you're lying there in agony, a drink would be the ideal thing to cheer you up, so I've devised a Glühwein Mexican Special for you – that's right, it's a wine plus tequila concoction.

Of course, you'll need four or five different bottles, plus a primus stove, and it you've left them behind with your documents, saw, boot laces etc, then I'm afraid I can't help you. You'll just have to wait for one of those dogs with brandy barrels to come along. Ciao.

Sorry I'm late *(writes a real doctor)*, but I was out playing golf. And I'm afraid the bad news is that brandy is *out*. Alcohol opens the veins at the surface and gives you a *feeling* of warmth, but you know, it also takes away the blood from vital internal organs and then we're into heart attack country. What we need is something that closes the veins. And the only thing we've ever found like that is marijuana. Yes, odd isn't it? So get out a joint and light up.

Penalties for drug using are *fairly stiff in Switzerland (writes a lawyer)*, and whatever the doctor says it's going to be pretty embarrassing if you're lying there with a broken leg, puffing away, and the first people to arrive are the Swiss Drug Squad, who have their own Mountain Drug Ring Busting team, and pretty efficient they are too. Hard men, as well. I can't say I'd relish the thought of being beaten up lying there in the snow with a bad leg. Still, it's up to you. That'll be £60 – I'll let you have the bill.

Well, that's it *(concludes Rudi)*. There you are, lying in the snow, as the dusk descends and the stars come out – and what stars! They are particularly lovely this time of year, and if you have your chart of the night sky with you, it will be an unforgettable experience. If you haven't, of course, it will be lost on you. So *do* remember when you go out skiing, always to have the following with you:

Boot laces, saw, sandpaper, insurance documents, mini-bar, Primus stove, several marijuana joints and a night sky chart.

Have fun! Hope you survive!

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 520)

ACROSS
8 Ruling order (1,3)
9 Can (3)
10 Adjust to surroundings (9)
11 Sacred song (5)
13 Ballet tights (7)
16 German measles (7)
19 Turn-ups (5)
22 Youth period (5,4)
24 Wrath (3)
25 Just possessor (8,5)

DOWN
1 Repressed (4,2)
2 Verse (6)
3 Aberrant (8)
4 Eyelash (6)
5 Lower jaw front (4)
6 Take place (6)
7 Authenticate (6)
12 Low coin (3)
14 Surgical cut (8)
15 Not on (3)
16 Prayer beads (6)
17 Large sturgeon (6)
18 Counting frame (6)
20 Quaker (6)
21 Large scissors (6)
23 Adore (4)

SOLUTION TO No 519
ACROSS: 1 Bereft 4 Tawdry 7 Luck 8 Diatribe 9 Demarche 13 Tip 16 Encephalogram 17 Awe 19 Epiphany 24 Locality 25 Dual 26 Drudge 27 Panada
DOWN: 1 Bilk 2 Recherche 3 Tudor 4 Trash 5 Wary 6 Rabbi 10 Ample 11 Coati 12 Epoch 13 Tarantula 14 Pomp 15 Mesa 18 Wooer 20 Prise 21 Pay up 22 Bard 23 Plea



How the British sank their first Cognac Courvoisier

C ognac has long been a
favourite of the B
As fa
Dr Samuel Johnson
following observation
Claret is for b
men. But cog
heroes.
Be
certa
of t

Courvoisier is the only cognac to be honoured with The Diploma Prestige de la France, the French award for excellence.

on
the B
British ge
Emperor's favourite
somewhat slim.

Circumstances changed that.

In 1815, after his abdicatio
Napoleon arranged to leav
secretly for the United States of
America.

He loaded two ships with
variety of provisions, includin
cognac supplied by Emmanu
Courvoisier.

In 1860, Felix Courvoisier was appointed official purveyor of cognacs to the Court of Napoleon III.

Napoleon subsequently chang-
ed his mind and decided to give

Courtesy of Napoleon.

himself up to the British.

All his belongings, including the cognac were eventually transferred to the HMS Northumberland, thus giving the British officers ample time to taste the cognac.

In fact they got such a taste for it that Courvoisier became known as the cognac of Napoleon.

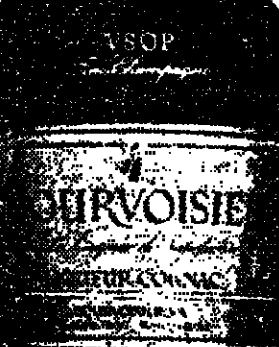
C ourvoisier is still made in the same way, using the best grapes of the Charente area of France.

All brandy is not cognac. Cognac can only be produced from the grapes of the Charente area of South West France, where conditions are ideal. Ordinary brandies can be produced anywhere, from almost any fruit.

It is matured in oak casks for a longer period than French cognac laws decree and blended by Master blenders, who serve an apprenticeship of at least ten years.

The Courvoisier we drink today is made in the same way as the Courvoisier that Napoleon kept under his hat.

COURVOISIER



Le Cognac de Napoléon

The Born Leader

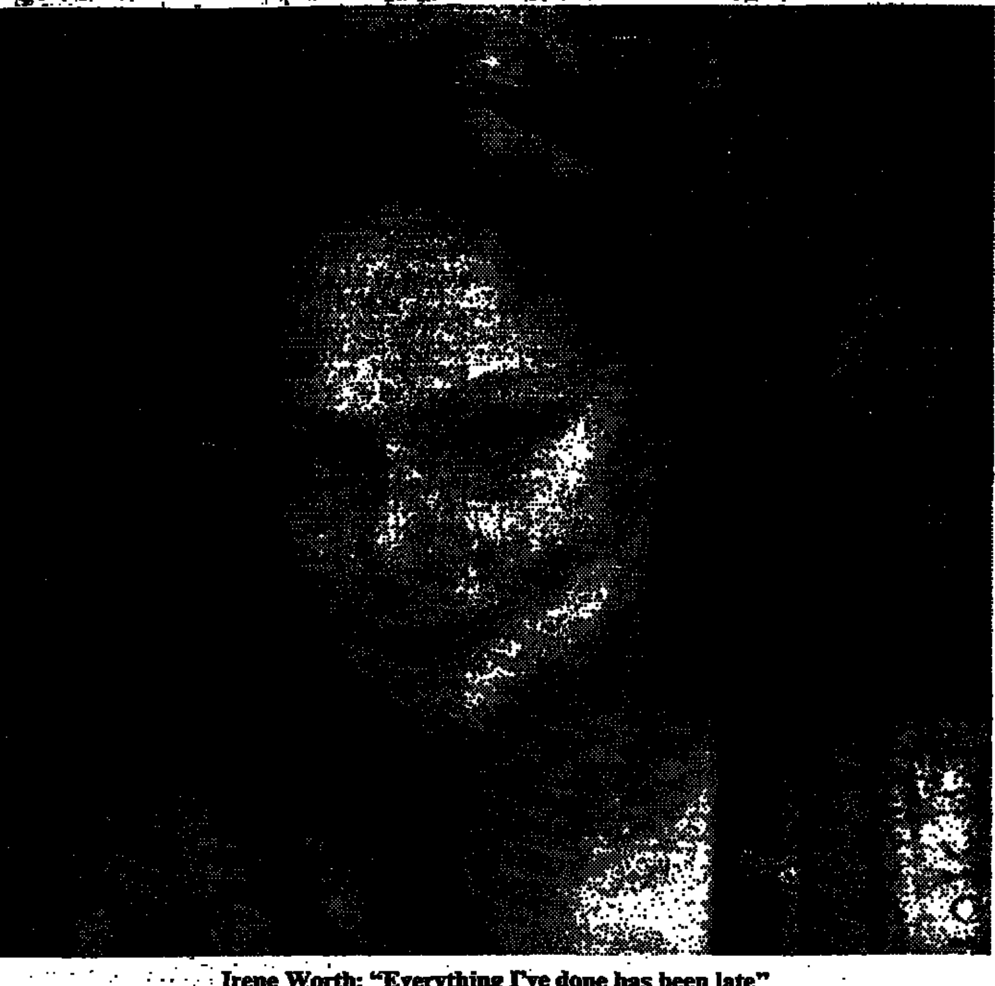

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DE
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مكرر من الاصل

THE ARTS

Back to London and Shakespeare at the National after a long, long absence, Irene Worth talked to John Higgins about her career

Never stick with the same guru


Irene Worth: "Everything I've done has been late"

Irene Worth reckons that her return to London after a lengthy absence to play Volumnia in the National's *Coriolanus*, which opens on Saturday, delayed a few days by the director Peter Hall's brief illness, has given her a re-run of her career. On her first afternoon back, there on television was the old black and white movie of *The Two Mrs Carrolls*, the play in which she made her Broadway début with Elisabeth Bergner. She walked into first rehearsals to find out that Tom Stoppard's *Rough Crossing* was none other than Molnar's *The Play's the Thing*, in which she had appeared with Clive Brook three years after that Broadway début. And to complete the remembrance of things past there was also at the National *A Little Hotel on the Side* – none other than Feydeau's *Hotel Paradiso* in which Miss Worth had partnered Alec Guiness at the old Winter Garden in Drury Lane.

She is no stranger to the National Theatre company. Her Jocasta in Peter Brook's *Oedipus* during the Old Vic days is *not going to* be forgotten. She had expected "a homecoming, albeit in a new house". But there instead, in those first few days, [illegible] passing before me". Volumnia is a role for which she has been "revving-up" for twenty years. She acted it on BBC television in the Elijah Moshinsky production but has never seen *Coriolanus* on stage – "not even when Larry [Olivier] did it". How then does Irene Worth rate the role?

"Easy. The very top, the crown among Shakespeare's female parts. Where else in the drama do you find a confrontation between mother and son to match that between Volumnia and Coriolanus? It's almost the situation between Queen Mary and Edward VIII. Volumnia is a rare woman of powerful talent and a staunch product of her school, the old school. Moreover she was bred for battle and the discipline of the army. Fame and honour are her watchwords.

"Yes, I have waited a long time and I confess to feeling nervous. I'm almost an outsider to Shakespeare and I simply can't recall the last time I played him on stage. [Gertrude in the *Hamlet* at Greenwich in 1974?] I just hope I haven't left *it too long. I remember Sybil* [Thorndike] saying to me when we were together in *A Day by the Sea*, with all these marvel- [illegible] act, my dear, but to do it well as very difficult – and the older you get the more difficult it becomes'."

Will that earlier television Volumnia have any influence on her present one? "None whatsoever. The medium is different, the leading man is different. I hate repeating myself. I'm not the same person that I was a year ago or the year before that. I've lived more and I've suffered more, and one of the prime consolations of living is that we can always hope for change."

The wait is unlikely to have done any harm because Irene Worth was some way into her career before she tackled either of the playwrights with whom she is most associated, Ibsen and Chekhov.

"Yes, everything I've done has been late. I was still at university in California when some of my contemporaries were on their way to being movie stars in Hollywood, and when later I was teaching school they *were* movie stars. That's probably why I've never played Juliet or Cordelia. Nor have I *done Cleopatra. It was offered*, but I reckoned I would have had to compromise, so I turned it down, and there's the greatest regret of all: no Nina in *The Seagull*.

"But there was, thank God, Hedda. In Stratford, Ontario, *Hedda* was an incredible, indescribable, beautiful triumph, although I say it myself. At about that time I was going to do *Uncle Vanya* at Chichester with Larry [Olivier]. But he shillied and shallied and Stratford stepped in with Lear. God gave me Goneril [a title for the autobiography?] and then there was Hedda, *the* number one role for women as Hamlet is for men." And Mme Ranevskaya in *The Cherry Orchard* must be the number two role, at least as far as Irene Worth is concerned. Probably her best performance in it came in the 1979 New York production staged by a virtually unknown Romanian director, Andrei Serban, and with an equally unknown actress called Meryl Streep in one of the supporting roles.

"Yes, that was a memorable production. I had first met Andrei when we were working together with Peter Brook in Iran, but I didn't guess then what he was capable of. One night during that run at the Public Theater the stage manager hissed at me, during the middle of the performance, 'The lights are going out all over New York – do you want to continue?' I hissed back 'Yes, of course we go on' and for a few moments it was like doing a broadcast in the dark. Then suddenly a phalanx of stage hands emerged all carrying candles across the front of the stage, illuminating that brilliant white set. It was almost as though the eighteenth century theatre had been reborn."

Mention of Peter Brook suggests that during parts of her career Irene Worth has tended to accept guru figures. Jonathan Miller in that Greenwich season was another one.

"In part that is true. The first guru – if you want that word – was Martha Graham. I watched her teaching a ballet class how to tear a piece of paper – 'Not enough tragedy', she would say, and then demonstrated how to do it. And that was how I tore the telegram in *The Cherry Orchard*. You ask if I've had my Brook period, my Miller period. Well perhaps I have. But I've never been talked into doing anything: the mistakes I have made have always been my own. *It is perfectly fine* to accept a guru provided that you know just when to move on. Stay too long and you acquire their mannerisms. How much growth *is* there in a nun's life?"

Theatre

A wizard evening

The Wiz

Lyric, Hammersmith


Celena Duncan, with the searing voice, as Dorothy

From his record as a director of American musicals, a promoter of black theatre, and a pioneer of the electronic fairy tale, you can see why Peter James has settled on this Harlem adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz* for the Lyric's Christmas show.

It certainly looks and sounds stunning. Dorothy's Kansas shack takes off in flashes of sealed-beam lighting, and once she has made the trip down the Yellow Brick Road (enacted by two slinky dancers carrying yellow finger-posts), the Big Green Apple comes into view as a vision of emerald skyscrapers, sparking under revolving spokes of light. The Wiz himself first arises on a hydraulic plinth attired in a parachute-sized cloak, and makes his departure by helicopter. Also there is a 10-piece band laying down a powerful jazz beat for most of the evening, until Charlie Smalls's score subsided into uplifting Broadway clichés.

The story, however, has gone up in smoke. *The Wiz* does not simply relocate Frank Baum's fable in Manhattan: it also transforms it into a black community show, and that means there can be no villains. It is OK to make affectionate fun of Dorothy's travelling companions (who include a fine comic acrobat in Clarke Peters's Scarecrow). But there is no question of unmasking the Wiz himself. He may be a trickster, but he has made it to the top, and his big number, "Believe in Yourself" is promptly taken up by the Good Witch.

As for the supposedly wicked Evillene (Earlene Bentley), she comes on strong as a red-hot enchantress reclining in a bower of roulette wheels and fruit machines, bellowing the blues at her cringing menials. But there is no real harm in her, and she is liquefied in no time after capturing Dorothy. The only outright villain is Uncle Sam, whose malevolent white features confront the scared travellers from a giant poster in the forest.

Plot aside, William F. Brown's book is charmingly characterized and witty; as in its handling of Green Apple officials, and in presenting the Lion (Clem Jones) as a would-be baseball hero. There are some fine, searing voices, particularly from Celena Duncan and Earlene Bentley. And when dance takes over from dialogue, as with two showgirl poppies and their *Maltese* pusher, or Evillene's team of black-leather monkeys, even the story comes together.

Irving Wardle

Hairspray and the Mohican ritual

Mohicans

Donmar Warehouse

It remains to be seen whether Garry Lyons's play will attract the Wet Paint Company's loyal punk following to leaven the Warehouse audience. But for the rest of us, Jem Wall and Nick Ledgard as two Mohicans from Woodhouse, Leeds 6, give a riveting account of their lifestyle. Water and sugar makes the best spikes, they get through three jumbo cans of hairspray a week, and "On t' bald bit, you can write 'Fascist' with a felt tip to cover up your acne". Hair takes an hour a day, which may not be in the Queen Charlotte class but certainly rises to ritual level.

And that is the point: the play actually presses the Indian parallel. Jobless punks are dispossessed, persecuted for their lifestyle (though non-acceptance is surely its point), and eventually it comes to sounds of an Indian massacre accompanying mother's description of her ordeal at the DHSS, and the boys shooting a shopkeeper and being reincarnated as redskins.

All this is too much to swallow, though Mr Lyons stresses the chants, war gear and ritual offers of Tetley's, and even makes the old dear in the corner shop (Gina McKee) a sort of local Witch of Endor. Graham Devlin's Major Road Company production is most convincing at grassroots level, especially Gill Wright as a red-eyed mother, terrified of the electricity bill and living on Valium and the *Sun* crossword. As her sly offspring, Mr Ledgard nips up to Woodhouse Ridge for a sniff of Evo-Stik (Evo to initiates) or steals a squirt of café ketchup in a plastic bag, while Mr Wall's big soft moaner is memorably greeted by a girlfriend with "Eyoop, misery-guts".

Anthony Masters

Galleries

Purist and protester

John Deakin/Edwin Smith

Victoria and Albert Museum


Deakin's view of poet W. S. Graham (detail)

John Deakin and Edwin Smith were both born in 1912; Smith died in 1971, Deakin in 1972. Both, also, came from English working-class families, and both nurtured initial ambitions to be painters. But there the likeness ends. Smith, though he never stopped drawing in his notebooks, very soon decided that he was completely happy to be a photographer. In the Thirties he experimented with a few genres – the nude, for instance – with which one would not ever associate him, and some of the earliest pictures in the exhibition, and the resplendent book which accompanies it, *Edwin Smith: Photographs 1935-1971* (Thames and Hudson, £18), are of people in the streets of London or entertainers in a Home Counties carnival and look surprisingly like, say, Bill Brandt's of the same period.

After the war, however, he found his way towards that specialization which helps to make a Smith photograph immediately recognizable: landscape, especially close-up details of landscape, and even more architecture and interiors. It would do him an injustice to suggest that it was solely the subject-matter which distinguishes his work: there is a precise appreciation of texture, and the way the light falls across different stones or woods or fabrics which no other photographer has quite achieved. Nor does a very English feeling for quaintness (not for nothing was he a favourite artist of *The Saturday Book*) detract from a purist rigour and discipline: even his little jokes have to make perfect artistic sense.

Deakin was not interested in the quaint, and never, at least as a photographer, made jokes. He saved his eccentricity for his life: his art was always head-on and unsparing. He seems to have been generally self-hating and self-destructive, never liked being a photographer or felt satisfied with it, and deliberately sabotaged those who tried to collect and preserve his work or indeed commission him to do more of it – all in favour of paintings which even his nearest and dearest universally agree were ghastly. As a photographer his forte was the depiction of people. His volume of views of *London Today* (1949), though it has its admirers, strikes me as rather ordinary, but there is nothing in the least ordinary about his amazing, uncluttered close-ups of Francis Bacon, W. S. Graham or indeed himself: in the first two cases somehow even the extreme delapidation of the only known surviving prints seems oddly suitable and expressive. The show is subtitled "The Salvage of a Photographer".

John Russell Taylor

Concert

The strongest of French impressions

Lontano

St John's

Lontano's current concert series has the title "French Impressions" ("The French Connection" must have been sorely tempting, but might have given the wrong impression) and is based around an extremely characterful group of composers including Xenakis, Boulez and Debussy. None of those three were in Tuesday night's third instalment, however, instead the focus fell on André Bon – entirely unknown to me, a Messiaen pupil born in 1946 – and on the altogether more approachably Frenchified music of Poulenc, Ibert and Milhaud.

By way of contrast, the other concerts have offered English music by James Dillon: this one gave instead a welcome chance to hear again Simon Bainbridge's 1983 *Concertante in moto perpetuo*, a bubbling, intoxicating mixture of repetitive fragments, relentlessly sustained, providing a vehicle for Gareth Hulse's oboe to pit itself against the equally furious activity of the accompanying ensemble. I could indentify with the composer's description of the work as a character study of his energetic two-year-old daughter, but there was more light and air, more sense of respite and newly renewed energy, than the *moto perpetuo* description might imply.

André Bon's *Fancy* fell on sounds far less active; though there were moments of similarly frenetic activity in this eleven-and-a-half minute fantasy, it was the period of wandering, gentle exploration, signalled by the atmospheric playing of Ingrid Culliford as the fine flute soloist, that caught the ear. But there was less continuity to sustain the listener than in Bainbridge's invention: the textures were dominated by the colourful effects of tuned percussion, harp, celesta and guitar, and drifted with sometimes dangerous insubstantiality.

But there was a very high energy quotient in John Harle's exuberant run-through of Ibert's Concertino da Camera (an aptly modest title for a work which needs modesty) and it was certainly worthwhile enduring this less than profound experience to have Harle take part in the concluding Milhaud *La Creation du Monde*, a really very fine account of this flash-in-the-pan score, in which Odaline de la Martinez's direction caught perfectly the mix of jazzy irreverence and native wistfulness. It is extraordinary how powerfully Milhaud's mixture still comes across compared with most of his milk-and-water output: the strongest of French impressions.

Nicholas Kenyon



Television

Nearly flesh and blood

The single eye of a camera is an ungiving spectator, offering the actor close scrutiny without encouragement, precluding the scope afforded by the dimensions of a stage.

On the latter, Alec McCowen is a veteran soloist and successful, lately with Brian Clark's *Kipling*. Last night on Channel 4 he took on the beady eye with Kipling and much self-confidence for the best part of 90 minutes and emerged, I thought, with his self-confidence justified, surviving even the commercial breaks.

Kipling would surely, while resenting the intrusion into his psyche, have approved. He was a man with an obsession for privacy. Author Brian Clark is a man with a slight obsession to penetrate it – through the great man's works.

He obviously thinks Kipling might not have been the man he reads and sounds to have been; that he was an establishment critic as much as an establishment man; not belonging to it but bound by some self-identified order of priorities which he believed to be inherent in the English race.

To anyone born after 1935, his voice must surely ring oddly, but as an enigma he is interesting and Messrs Clark and McCowen made him as near flesh and blood as may be.

Perhaps the best clue to that imperial, unquenchable bravura was in Mr Clark's extrapolation of his childhood, isolated from his parents and cruel. No doubt the luckless boy exhorted himself to be brave and, child into man, kept at it.

BBC1's *The Box of Delights* is scheduled at a time which removes it from the reach of many adults, which is their loss. The wolves are running before 5 pm. Alan Seymour's adaptation of this Masefield classic is faithful and superb.

The production, by Paul Stone, directed by Renny Rye, a name Masefield would surely have thought apt, is made possible on television by the vast advance in special effects techniques. They are used without damage to content.

Last night again, much knobbling and scrobbling, with Devin Stanfield as the hero, Kay, taking special effects and all in his stride, at large in the villains' lair. The adults rise to the occasion, too; Robert Stephens flying from unctuosity to rage most unpredictably, his partner Patricia Quinn, as Sylvia Daisy Pouncer, matching him marvellously.

For deprived adults without a magic video box themselves, let us hope there will be the indulgence of a weekend repeat.

Dennis Hackett

● Esa-Pekka Salonen has been appointed principal guest conductor of the Philharmonia Orchestra from January 1. Salonen, a young Finnish conductor, made his debut with the Philharmonia at the Royal Festival Hall in September 1983 when he learnt and conducted Mahler's Third Symphony at a week's notice with outstanding success.

● Next year's Wexford Festival will cover three centuries of opera. On the opening night there will be Catalani's *La Wally*, first performed in 1892; this will be followed by Handel's *Ariodante* (1735) and Kurt Weill's *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* (1930). The festival opens on October 23 and, as usual, runs for 10 days.

● Next year's Bath Festival, from May 24 to June 9, is to include a celebration of Hungarian life and culture, as well as much music by the tercentenarians Bach, Handel and Scarlatti.





THE TIMES DIARY

Slip through the net

Should he read this week's reports of Eastern European ships plundering Falklands fish stocks, Nikoli Kot will relive a nightmare. Last Christmas, as a Russian seaman aboard one of these ships, Kot broke both legs and was flown to Port Stanley hospital. Lest he observe military movements in the town, the authorities kept him in a darkened room and blindfolded him when he went to the toilet. Kot understandably tried to escape but broke four ribs climbing out of a window. During Mrs Thatcher's surprise visit he was locked in a lavatory to avoid an embarrassing encounter, and was finally flown 8,000 miles to Britain by RAF Hercules where, legs still in plaster, he was unceremoniously dumped at the Soviet embassy.

Leaking on

There is no end to the Belgrano leaks. The latest springs from the ICA in the Mall, which is trying to keep the wraps on a freedom of *information conference on January* 19, entitled *Shh . . . It's a Secret*. The surprise star, whom it plans to reveal shortly, is Clive Ponting, whose trial for allegedly leaking Belgrano documents opens nine days later. Ponting's subject: "Secrecy and liberty".

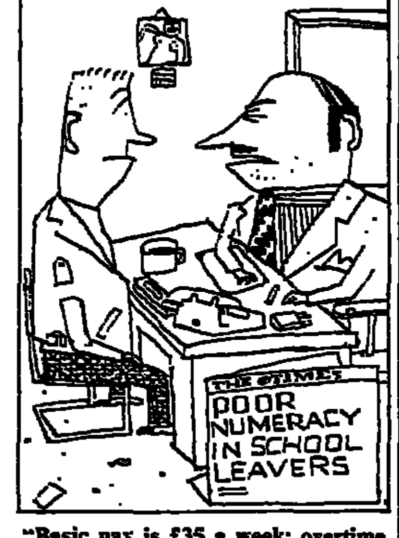
Party pooper

Neil Kinnock is trying every means he knows to unite his MPs. Recently he has taken to inviting potential rebels – like Allan Roberts and Kevin Barron – to tea parties in his rooms at the Commons. The idea is that they are won over by his homely charm over cakes and sandwiches. The sessions go well until Kinnock asks the special guests if they have any worries about the Labour Party. Roberts, I am told, boasts that his prompt reply was: "Only about the leadership."

Home, sour home

Architecture critic Stephen Gardiner was not amused to find one of his own designs on the receiving end of criticism. A suggestion that Stratton Park in Hampshire – a house he designed for banker Sir John Baring in 1960 – was so impractical that Sir *John moved out is totally false*, he says, and highly damaging to his professional reputation. The Bodley Head first published the suggestion in John Martin Robinson's *The Latest Country Houses* this autumn. Articles in the *Spectator* and *Building Design* repeated it. All three have now received letters from solicitors representing Gardiner and fellow architect Christopher Knight demanding apologies and compensation. Or else.

BARRY FANTONI



"Basic pay is £35 a week: overtime takes it to £27"

Lord's prayer

It's nice to know Bruce Kent reads this column. After my piece on how Brigadier Harbottle had declined to defend his much-slated Generals for Peace group before the Lords defence committee, the CND general secretary has written to the committee's secretary, Lord Kimberley, saying he was unaware that voluntary bodies *could* present evidence. Can CND do so "as soon as possible"?, he asks. "Our evidence would relate to the abuse and misrepresentation and lies about CND in the House of Lords."

● The royals are all rushing into print. Prince Charles's children's book was first, Prince Edward and *Prince Philip followed, and now* Hutchinson has signed up Captain Mark Phillips. His subject? A riding guide for beginners.

Rest cure

How has Norman Tebbit occupied himself in hospital? For a start he has read Professor Hayek's devastating attack on collectivism, *The Road to Serfdom*. I am now passed a letter written to him by Peter Young of the free-market *Adam* Smith Institute enclosing policy documents on trade and industry. These advocate sweeping privatization which would enable the wholesale dismantling of his department. "Your doctors would agree that this is a good idea because it would mean you would have a greatly reduced workload when you come out", writes Young. "After you've spoken to your remaining civil servant in the morning you cold go fishing in the afternoon. Please communicate your agreement soon as we'd like to finish the job before Christmas."

PHS

Two views from the East: Richard Owen assesses Mikhail Gorbachov, about to visit Britain, and Roger Boyes reports on the continuing strains in post-Solidarity Poland

The golden boy's first challenge



Moscow

When he steps onto British soil on Saturday for his talks with Mrs Thatcher, *Mikhail Gorbachov will* be stepping out of the Kremlin shadows and into the full glare of international publicity – and he knows it. "Our second general secretary", as officials here call him, is clocking up experience as Russia's probable future leader. He will have one eye on Mrs Thatcher and the television cameras, and the other on reaction back home.

Why have we not seen Gorbachov at recent meetings of the Soviet leadership, I asked one Soviet *adviser the other day. Why did he* not meet Neil Kinnock in Moscow? Is Gorbachov's position in the Politburo slipping? Not at all, came the reply: Mikhail Sergeevich is preparing for London.

To those who have watched his *rise, Mikhail Gorbachov is the* golden boy of Soviet politics. Still only 53 in a leadership of septuagenarians, Gorbachov was propelled into the central committee secretariat in 1978 from Provincial Stavropol, and into the Politburo itself only two years later, with a ready-made reputation for style and pragmatism.

Where most Soviet leaders can barely muster an evening class diploma between them Gorbachov has two degrees, one in law (from Moscow) and one in agronomy *(Stavropol)*. When he went to Canada last year, on his first major foray westwards, Pierre Trudeau and his aides found Gorbachov "very *impressive*". Since then Gorbachov has consolidated his position as the Kremlin's second-in-command, *standing at President Chernenko's* elbow and acquiring control over the economy, ideology, internal appointments and some aspects of foreign affairs.

Sir Iain Sutherland, our man in Moscow, met Gorbachov for 40 minutes as part of preparations for London. All diplomats who have met Gorbachov describe him as brisk, businesslike, pleasant and well-informed. But does this make him a liberal, a modernizer, a man the West can do business with?

Most members of the Soviet apparatus are men of the older generation who made ruthless careers under Stalin. Even if they allowed a representative of the new post-war generation like Gorbachov to reach the top, resistance to change would still be deeply entrenched. Gorbachov is a fervent protégé of the late Yuri Andropov, and intends to revive the innovative, decentralizing ideas of his brief era.

Andropov found the bureau- cracy immovable, however, and so might Gorbachov, even if he has 15 years rather than 15 months in power.

The road to supreme power in Russia is in any case littered with foregone conclusions. Gorbachov has powerful rivals, including Grigory Romanov, who is thought to appeal to hardliners more than the urbane Gorbachov. There is still a questionmark over his failure to speak at the October plenum on agriculture, or attend the key November Politburo meeting at which Chernenko curcumvented the central committee and laid down economic policy. Gorbachov has reappeared at the Supreme Soviet, and his major speech this week on ideology has confirmed his powerful position in the leadership.

If Gorbachov does make it to the top it will be because he can combine urbanity with politics as ruthless and hardline as anything Romanov can think up – if necessary. Gorbachov is a child of the apparatus he hopes to reform. He was a boy during the war, and still a student when Stalin died, but he inherits a system which is still fundamentally Stalinist.

Gorbachov made his career exclusively as a Komsomol and party apparatchik in Stavropol before his ability brought him to the notice of Mikhail Suslov and to Moscow.

He shares many of the attitudes held by the old guard with whom he rubs shoulders. He supports Chernenko's drive to reduce arms costs (the defence budget has just gone up by 12 per cent), releasing resources to "meet the needs of the people", as Gorbachov put it this week in his address on ideology. But in the same speech he demanded "class vigilance" against bourgeois propaganda. During his visit to Canada he praised detente, but also attacked what he called Nato's insatiable war machine and the "feverish" deployment of missiles against a purely defensive Soviet arsenal.

He seemed baffled and angered by what had to be explained as the normal "give and take" of debate, and seemed to resent questions from parliamentarians on Jewish emigration or Afghanistan.

He exploded when asked why Russia maintained such a large number of KGB agents in Soviet embassies in the West. "You are prisoners of the spy mania America is whipping up", he retorted in a flash of true feeling. "Do you think we are simpletons? This is calculated ideological sabotage to discredit the Soviet Union, to strike a blow at her prestige and authority."

An aberration, or had the mask slipped? In discussing arms control and East-West issues Gorbachov usually shows an impressive grasp of detail, and his ideas on home and *foreign policy are often sharp and* imaginative. In a key speech at Smolensk during the summer – long before the Politburo made its historic decision to attempt a rapprochement with a re-elected Ronald Reagan – Gorbachov urged a return to detente. In Sofia in September he again showed the way forward by remarking that a "constructive dialogue" and a "change for the better" in East-West relations were on the cards, provided there was "goodwill" and determination" on both sides.

But the same man, perhaps with the need to keep Moscow's allies in line uppermost in his mind, lashed out at American imperialism, spoke of feverish western warmongering, attacked "revanchism" in West Germany and accused the West of *trying to "loosen" the Warsaw Pact* by differentiating between liberal and hardline Soviet-bloc states.

Seen from Moscow, the reality appears to be that Gorbachov combines the world view of a Chernenko or Gromyko with a sharp mind and potential freshness of thought, even political vision. He and his generation are now feeling their way forward. Whether the conservative or the reformer in Gorbachov comes to the fore, suspicion or trust, hostility or dialogue, could very largely depend on how he reacts to the West, and how the West reacts to him.

"The London visit is important not only because of the Gromyko and Shultz meeting in January, about restarting arms talks", commented a Soviet source. "It is not just a question of immediate results. It is also a question of sowing the seeds of future relations – perhaps for the next 20 years."

Generals beset on three fronts

Warsaw

Three years ago today, Poles awoke to find soldiers in the streets, warming their hands on braziers, stamping their feet in the snow. Armoured cars roamed the city centres like predatory forest beasts. Telephones were dead, a dawn-to-dusk curfew imposed. The Vistula bridges, the television centre and party headquarters were guarded. *General Jaruzelski, in dark glasses*, announced a "state of war".

Today the soldiers are back in barracks, the telephones work, after a fashion, and Jaruzelski, in reading glasses, declares that the words "crisis" and "Poland" are no longer *synonymous*.

Martial law destroyed Solidarity as a mass political movement and it converted an overt crisis into a submerged crisis. For many Poles, however, martial law remains a costly mistake: the killing of Solidarity *in return for a choreog*raphed and scarcely audible dialogue between leaders and led was a poor bargain.

But martial law, by bringing a Warsaw Pact army out of the shadows into the political arena, has at least provided some useful insights into the nature of civil-military relations under communism. Can Soviet bloc armies, essentially conservative forces, successfully steer their countries into reform – or are they doomed to heavy-handed failure? How does the character of a *socialist army change when it starts* to play politics?

Poland was allowed by Moscow to declare martial law because the army's party cell was fiercely loyal to communist ideals, hardly infected by dangerous Solidarity-style ideas. Every Warsaw Pact army has a dual command structure – a political hierarchy that runs in parallel to the operational officer ladder. Political officers gurarantee the army's loyalty to the Warsaw Pact and aim to turn rough peasant boys into new socialist men with clean fingernails.

Moscow was suspicious of Poland's political ruling class, failing to understand the close personal links between those in power and the dissident intelligentsia. They have been to the same schools, weathered the same crises, intermarried, drifted in and out of favour. The Polish government spokesman's daughter marries an underground printer: nobody in Warsaw blinks an eyelid. In the Mazurian village that houses his summer dacha, the deputy premier finds that his neighbours include men who were interned under *martial law. They meet in the shop*, celebrate a religious holiday with the locals.

The officers introduced to government by General Jaruzelski were not part of this closed circle. They were trained at Soviet military academies and are true-believing communists; neither "liberals", nor "hardliners" but simply believers who feel most at ease in the hermetic social environment of the military. Martial law is over, but these political generals have stayed in place: the interior minister is General Czeslaw Kiszczak (formerly head of military counter-intelligence); the mining minister, the local economy minister, the head of the chamber of control, the Warsaw mayor, the provisional governors of Gdansk and Katowice, the Poznan party chief – all are generals. It goes without saying that the defence minister is a general, that General Jaruzelski's *Chef de Cabinet* is a brigadier and that his main speechwriter wears a major's uniform.

The source of the army's power in a Soviet bloc country is vested in the case of its communication with Moscow. Senior officers in Poland and East Germany knew of the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia six months in advance. Moscow's disgruntlement about the rise of Solidarity was registered through army channels not just the Communist Party central committee – and it was the party cell in the army that took the implied threat from the Kremlin most seriously. The most regular high-level Soviet visitor to Poland is probably Viktor Kulikov, commander of Warsaw Pact forces.

Both Moscow and, grudgingly, the *Polish Communist Party machine* accepted martial law as a policing operation. After some persuasion the Kremlin has also accepted the idea that generals can try to move a socialist neighbour towards limited changes – parliamentary and council *elections fielding non-communist* candidates, or a new wage system. Providing that the army can guarantee order and switches gradually from an army-state system to a party-state system, Moscow seems content to let it rest. But the Polish party apparatchiks are not so patient: unlike almost everybody else in Poland, they take the Jaruzelski reforms seriously. A Hungarian-style system would mean further purges, would deny much of the logic of the internal security apparatus (the Kadar slogan, quoted by Jaruzelski, "He who is not against us, is for us" is a secret policeman's nightmare) and would decentralize power. The only way to stop this development is to convince Moscow that Jaruzelski is no longer capable of guaranteeing calm. That is why the finger is pointed at hardliners for the murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko and why the General's men are being relatively candid about the murder. The Jaruzelski leadership is now determined to send the correct signals to the Kremlin: through the army, through other East bloc leaders.

But although the Jaruzelski group may have survived the Popieluszko case, the long-term future is bleak for an army engaged in politics and the reformist cause. The real future of army participation in East European politics is determined by its relative efficiency as a military force. *If Moscow suspects that an* ally is not meeting its Pact obligations, then it draws in the reins. Diplomats in East European capitals say the current dispute is about the pace of conventional modernization. The Soviet Union *wants its allies – especially Poland*, which has the largest non-Soviet army in the Pact – to re-equip. But the Poles, like every other member, are short of cash.

But the most complex calculation for Moscow is how far martial law *has bitten into the reliability of this* mainly conscript army. On the one hand, the Soviet command must be pleased to see that popular opinion of the army has not plunged (in contrast to that of the police which has fallen from an already low base). But *on the other hand the new* intake of national servicemen have had their political consciousness forged by the values of Solidarity. One occasionally sees off-duty soldiers wearing Black Madonna badges - the religious icon and national symbol often sported by Lech Walesa.

If martial law offers a lesson for the rest of the Pact, it must be that officers should be given greater opportunity to air their views. By placing more officers on the central committee, communist leaders intent on pursuing reforms or even just democratic tinkering, will avoid the risks that stem from the isolation of the army. The military factor looms so large in so many of the decisions made by Warsaw Pact nations that the army should be given an institutional say in government. In the long term though, the army has to have a supportive rather than guiding role: Moscow will not easily digest another general as leader.

After Soho, where next for the killer peer?

A few feet under a car park hut in the middle of Soho lies a man who has waited 180 years to be buried on an island in a Swiss lake. Now, at last, Thomas Pitt, second (and last) Baron Camelford, killed in a duel at the age of 29, looks set to move, but it is by no means certain that his last wish will be honoured.

Camelford, a bullying eccentric, whom *The Times* described as insane, reposes in the crypt of St Anne's Church, together with several hundred other well-to-do Londoners. The church was badly damaged by a German bomb in the Second World War and only the clock tower remains above ground. Now the site is to be redeveloped, and the bodies will be transferred to London's dormitory cemetery at Brookwood in Surrey.

Camelford's misfortune was to have been bound by rank to be a leader of men but unfit by temperament. He committed at least one murder, escaping punishment through his family connexions. Pitt the Younger was a cousin, as were Admiral Sir Sidney Smith and the First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Chatham, while his sister Anne married Lord Grenville, the Foreign Secretary. In the end, they were not enough to save him from a stupid death.

Such was his renown that his cloak and dagger visits to France fuelled rumours of plots to assassinate Napoleon Bonaparte; there is a suggestion that his death was set up by the French security service. He allowed a former mistress, Fanny Simmonds, to conjure up allegations against Thomas Best, who had no wish to pick a fight with him. But when persistently challenged, Best was bound to respond. He happened to be the most accurate shot in England. Camelford's chest received the ball early one morning in Kensington Gardens.

On the eve of the duel, he added a codicil to his will. He wished to be buried at a place he had known as a schoolboy in Neuchatel. "I beseach most earnestly that whenever the times will permit, my body may be removed in the cheapest manner to the Island of St Pierre in the Lake of Bienne in Switzerland, there to be deposited between three trees that stand on the right of the pavillion." He bequeathed £1,000 to the Oppetal des Bourgeois in Berne, which owned, and still owns, the island.

But his country was at war with Napoleon, and he was buried, temporarily, in St Anne's. Peace came, but the Chancellor of the Diocese of London withheld permission to remove the body, influenced possibly by Camelford's embarrassed relatives. There he remains. The entrance to the crypt was closed up in 1860, but churchwarden Bryan Burrough is certain the coffin can be located.



Camelford: a new duel

The interment is recorded in the burial day-book; the fee was seven guineas, an enormous amount for that time. The shroud was of linen, whereas most people were buried in wool, as an encouragement to British agriculture. Mr Burrough thinks he will be in a lead coffin, probably with bone buttons on the shroud, and the skeleton largely intact. If there is any doubt, forensic scientists could look for the ball, which lodged in the sixth dorsal vertebra. Will Camelford's wish be granted? The three trees he mentioned have gone, but their stumps remain. And the Oppetal has said it would be willing to have him. There is a real problem in that the Anglo-Swiss company entrusted with the £1,000 went broke a century ago. Safety invested at 4 per cent, it should have been worth £250,000 by now.

Alternatively, he could be reburied at the family home, Boconnoc, near Lostwithiel in Cornwall, now the property of Captain Desmond Fortescue, great-great-great nephew of Lord Grenville, Camelford's brother-in-law.

Captain Fortescue says the old Boconnoc graveyard is overcrowded, but there might just be room. Did he know much about the man? "The first Baron Camelford was a kindly man, but the second sounds rather curious."

Denis Herbstein

Ronald Butt

A Christmas task for the Tories

If Mrs Thatcher has anything to do with it (and in such matters prime *ministers*, especially this one, have everything to do with it when final decisions have to be taken) the ideas now floating round the Treasury for abolishing some of the present tax reliefs on pensions will take off into the blue and be lost to sight.

The Prime Minister is a realist. She knows that this sort of device for raising more money in order to free more low-paid people from paying any tax at all is not practical politics, whatever its justification in strict logic. She is right. In a *platonically* perfect tax world there would doubtless be no "distorting" special tax concessions, and this one could be dispensed with in the same way that tax concessions on insurance premiums have been. But it is not practical politics, and in Mrs *Thatcher the admirable urge* towards what would be rational solutions in a world governed by pure reason is always tempered by a strong sense of political reality.

The Government certainly needs to create a realistic gap between what a *lower paid wage earner* can take home from employment, and what his family can have from social benefits when he is unemployed. That can be done only by raising the threshold at which tax-paying starts, which requires more tax-raising elsewhere. But ending the tax concessions for pension-building, whether in respect of contributions or commuted lump sums on retirement, would be too politically expensive a price to pay.

It is obviously desirable to extricate the nation so far as possible from the maze of social benefits and subsidies which undermine job opportunities and encourage waste, and it is from this premise that the fundamentalists of the economic right, who are not much concerned with political feasibility, would like to see not only the removal of tax reliefs in respect of pensions, but also for mortgage interest as well. Many theoreticians of the left would like the same because they dislike the concessions given to house owners as compared with house renters.

But those who want the Thatcher experiment to succeed should be wary of reducing a good doctrine to absurdity by preferring its letter to its spirit. In a social system so complex as ours, which has been under heavy *socio-economic interventionism* of one sort or another for most of this century, it is absurd to think that the whole edifice can simply be stripped down by obedience to strict logic. The question is not whether the govern*ment should intervene* but in what way.

The Labour Party has aimed at a socialist society in which the individual depends on the state for almost everything that matters, and in which individual responsibility takes second *place to the collective* responsibility. Over several generations this concept of the good society has steadily promoted more and more dependence on government, and Tory governments have broadly accepted this direction, only pausing here and there to apply a gentle brake.

Yet the Conservative Party would like to move towards a society in which the individual who can takes more responsibility for himself, leaving the state more room to care better for those who really need its support. For the first time it has a government which is prepared to try putting this theory into practice. But to move to that sort of society also requires intervention, and this includes the encouragement of house-buying through mortgages and saving through pensions, just as much as it has needed the sale of council houses on preferential terms, and of British Telecom, both of which have been a huge success, to the dismay of the government's opponents.

If Mr Scargill's attack on the *constitution* is defeated, and *it will* be, this will be because so many miners and millions of workers in other industries who have refused him support have become owners of houses and other property, and have an urge to be savers. They now have a stake in society. That should never be forgotten, and to remember it involves no retreat from the kind of society Mrs Thatcher wants to build.

Indeed, what would wreck her hopes would be defeat by Labour at the next election. She may hope that she will have got the nation on the *tramlines* by then and that an incoming Labour Party would be unwilling to switch the points. I doubt that. To establish the society Mrs Thatcher is trying to encourage, the Tories need one more victory (or at least the avoidance of outright defeat by Labour) and a political system in which (as she herself would probably like) the Labour Party was replaced by the Social Democrats. But that end requires more serious attention to political feasibility.

There is everything to be said for a thoroughgoing and open-minded review of social spending to construct a new Beveridge and new priorities, and to carry the nation along with change. The same should be done regarding the respective liability of the state and parents for their children who have reached their majority. A similar review of the broad taxation structure could also be attempted, though to deal with this in Green Paper terms would be harder.

The government has been going through a bad patch. Over student support, a minister acted without anticipating the foreseeable reactions of his backbenchers. With pensions, we presumably have departmental officials floating ideas which might achieve their ministers' other aims. In the new year, the government will have to polish up its act, and renew its contact with the way in which ordinary people think, from which departmental ministers become increasingly remote as their official machines *process their thinking from this* option to that, and funnel them from speech to speech and decision to decision. Time to reflect is an invaluable ministerial commodity. Perhaps Christmas will help to provide it.

Bryan Appleyard

Join the posse, hit the cowboys

I am indebted to David Verey and David Welander for their book on Gloucester Cathedral (Alan Sutton Publishing, £3.) and its documentation of the sheer, unalloyed horror of employing anybody in the building trade to do anything. Messrs Verey and Welander reveal that in the middle of the 13th century builders were employed by the wide-eyed monks to provide a new vault over Gloucester's Norman nave. The masons in question began by miscalculating the spaces involved and then, before their error could be properly examined, they *abandoned the whole project*. The monks had to finish the task themselves, the builders having done a bunk in favour of some more profitable work for the King.

About 720 years later the Building Employers' Confederation woke up to the problem and announced a scheme aimed, as this newspaper optimistically put it, "at outlawing cowboy builders". It is always nice to hear of people aiming low and missing, but really on this occasion it was difficult to manage so much as a wry smile.

What eight centuries of experience had failed to teach the BEC is that the words "cowboy" and "builder" are indissolubly linked: to be a builder is to be a cowboy. Or, to put it more directly, when deception, mendacity, sadism and greed were handed out, the building trade was at the front of the queue.

By and large this is not a subject which is often discussed. Education generally tops the list of urgent topics at the average middle-class dinner party. But it is all a front. The truth is that every sanguine guest is concealing a secret shame: a tale of how he was humiliated by some villainous proletarian who ripped him off right, left and centre; of how his marriage was wrecked over whether or not to trust Stan; or of how he spent £6,000 on a small area of discoloured concrete which would have been the beginnings of a Victorian-style conservatory but for the fact that Stan went bust and was almost obliged to trade in his Volvo 760 GLE for *something a little more* modest.

But the time has now come to form a Building Consumers' Confederation; it is time for a middle-class backlash. For almost 20 years it has been fashionable and ecologically desirable to "do up" homes. At first this meant a slow and painful education in the unpredictable ways of Polyfilla and a growth of DIY superstores. But DIY can go only so far. For the bigger stuff – that which invariably elicits a sharp intake of breath from the so-called professional one has been unwise enough to employ – the simple-minded bourgeois is obliged to "contract out" the work.

Painlessly our hero is drawn into the fiction that somehow he is a party to some kind of half-reasonable deal in which he expends money in order to have work done. The fiction is threefold: first that the work will be done within a given period of time (time, in the building trade, as in certain transcendental cults, is meaningless); second that it will be completed (a work of art is never finished, explained Paul Valery, merely abandoned); and third that it will be any good (no sharp intake of breath is more painful than that of a knowing friend who has seen the work on which you have just spent £6,000).

There can be no friendly consumerist advice at the end of this diatribe except: expect the worst. The only builders the present writer ever employed who were remotely reliable or conscientious were a bunch of teenagers who looked like a punk rock band dragged by the hair across the Gobi Desert. The builders with ties are the worst: they have the biggest mortgages and you will pay the price of their financial indiscretion. Your best bet is to abandon the class war altogether and leave builders to do up each other's homes and presumably tear themselves apart in ghastly internecine strife as pipes burst, walls fall down and damp creeps steadily heavenward.

Last year, reported this newspaper, the Office of Fair Trading received more than 42,000 complaints about home improvement work which went wrong, two-thirds more than in 1982. Those who did not complain were those who were presumably too ashamed to admit that Jack destroyed their marriage, humiliated them in ways too appalling to discuss or simply emptied the contents of their Halifax Building Society account.

Life is too lonely and too short ever to have to meet a builder, and Gloucester is all the better for the monks' well-meaning botching.

(This article was delivered on time and to the length specified by the client. It is, of course, structurally unsound).



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PRESCRIBING PROPAGANDA

Professional interest is outraged. That powerful professional trade union, the British Medical Association, circulates its members urging them to frighten into political mobilization vulnerable patients (who have conveniently never set eyes on family practitioner committees' cash accounts). Even more terrifying, the BMA proclaims itself the keeper of "fundamental principles" of the National Health Service: the same system of health care which forty years ago it fought to kill, the system born of BMA filibusters, wrangling and compromise. That distinguished elderly doctor turned politician, Lord Hill of Luton, scourge of socialized medicine on the BMA's behalf, must be excused his hollow chuckling.

The BMA's hyperbole against the Government's modest proposals to exclude certain classes of drug from NHS prescription is regrettable. The espousal in advertising placed by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry of the cause of the poor and the elderly is risible; let it plead the case of Hoffman-La Roche and Eli Lilly (foreign companies that will be worst affected by the proposals) instead. If these attempts to whip up revolt among Tory backbenchers are modelled on the protests over student grants, the signs are they will backfire: backbenchers are not going to be pressured by American-style write-ins and carefully prepared tear-off slips. The hysteria, however, should not prevent a point being made against the Government. Though right in principle on this issue, Mr Fowler should leave himself room to alter the practical arrangements for identifying the new black-list of drugs. He can still both benefit patient and doctor and keep faith with the taxpayers.

A year ago, in protectionist mood, the Government backed down in the face of the pharmaceutical industry's strenuous lobbying. The proposal then – supported more or less by the medical profession – was to end the prescription of name-brand drugs in favour of generics. For example, diazepam would be prescribed by the GP if a tranquillizer were required rather than the more expensive brand Valium. Mr Fowler still faces the same not-cash-limited bill for general practice and the still-growing cost of NHS drugs and he has returned to the battleground with a revised plan. In certain categories, "home cures" such as cough mixtures and tranquillizers, all preparations except those on a strictly delimited, list are to be excluded from NHS prescription. The result, the Government says, could be a saving of £100 million a year, purchased at minimal loss of clinical elbow room and, given the nature of the preparations, at no danger to patients.

The response, because self interested, largely ignores the volume of self medication that already takes place; it is anomalous that an array of tonics, analgesics and indigestion tablets easily bought over a chemist's counter should be available on prescription. For Labour's spokesman to cry that if a drug is not worth prescribing it should not be available at all embodies the typical inability of the collectivist to trust people in their habitual self-diagnosis and self-prescription for a range of common-or-garden ailments. On the basis of the lists published by the Government there is little merit in the ABPI's claim that limited supply will penalize the poor. The list needs amendment, but there is no reason why a sufficient number of alternative (cheaper) vitamins and sedatives should not remain for prescription; to substitute a generic for Mogadon is no hardship. The Government's plan is a modest and overdue reform.

Yet, at the margins of diagnosis and therapy there may be cases where only a specific pharmaceutical, name-branded or no, fits the patient's condition. Were his drug excluded, there would be discrimination against the patient. To avoid this we have to rely on the probity of the closet advice given Mr Fowler. Here perhaps the government has been hasty. Whatever the BMA may claim, the medical profession is not monolithic. The government would be well able to put together a senior and genuinely independent committee with a brief to label the "less important" drugs and so reassure a public which treasures the opinions of medical professionals. Certainly if there were to be further restrictions on prescription drugs (the limited list already operates widely and uncontroversially in hospitals) there is a case for such a committee and perhaps also an appeals mechanism.

Meanwhile let Mr Clarke defend his corner and educate the public with vigour – some of his recent performances against the BMA have had veritably Bevanite robustness. The policy is armoured by the need for NHS economy and administrative rationalization. The doctors and the druggists may want to turn the issue into a re-run of student grants and so freeze policy-making in public health. They have to fail.

LEARNING THE LESSON THROUGH DEFEAT

The exit of Mr David MacDowall from the directorship of the Polytechnic of North London is, unmistakably, a defeat. It is a defeat for due process, for academic self-government; it undermines those who through the past nine months of turmoil have tried to keep foremost the polytechnic's essential purposes of teaching and study. Here is another blow to the reputation of the Inner London Education Authority at the careless hands of its present leader, Mrs Frances Morrell – who has the gall to advertise her stewardship as a case against rate-capping. Meanwhile Mr MacDowall's departure is a victory, a vindication of disruption and vandalism on the far left and callow publicity-seeking on the far right.

To Mr Terence Miller, the former director, is attributed the remark that his job needed not high intelligence but low cunning. Perhaps this has been a department where the scholarly Mr MacDowall, a numismatist set adrift on the urban sea of the Holloway Road, has been lacking. Perhaps in recent months a better politician than he would have steered a defter line between judges, students, lawyers and Mrs Morrell. But what kind of institution is it that demands such skills?

The PNL harbours a cadre of young and not so youthful extremists, some identifiably members of the Socialist Workers' Party, others not; their brethren are responsible for much of the disruption that bedevils schools and municipal administration elsewhere in inner London. These leaders have followers: for too many of the polytechnic's lecturers teaching is a political game and their institutional obligations nil; for too long the absence of academic discipline has encouraged unaffiliated students to believe they can demonstrate and disrupt at no cost. These elements in the polytechnic gave Mr Patrick Harrington and his National Front friends their chance.

Have done with the trouble-makers: close the polytechnic, some say. But that is neither practicable nor just. On a split site and in an array of subjects the PNL does good work. To abandon it would be the ultimate capitulation to the enemies of reason who have had such a run in North London. There is moreover a clear course of action for the polytechnic's directorate and for all those – the education officer of the ILEA, Labour politicians prepared to stand up to Mrs Morrell, Her Majesty's Inspectors, the Council for National Academic Awards – concerned with its teaching.

On one side the polytechnic authorities must give no ground to those who would in the New Year continue the campaign of disruption: they must be prosecuted by means of the internal disciplinary code and in the courts if necessary. Similarly Mr Harrington. Until now as a properly matriculated student Mr Harrington's political beliefs have been irrelevant to his status. He has however recently made racialist remarks which are the subject of a complaint lodged by fellow students under the disciplinary code. Let that be adjudicated calmly and judiciously. A conviction would be slight grounds for expelling Mr Harrington but it would confirm the polytechnic directorate's attempts to organize for him separate tuition. Mr MacDowall's former colleagues owe him every effort to continue his work of administration and they, like him until patience and courage gave out, must resist interference from Mrs Morrell who would impose her fashionable dogma of race and class in every school and college.

AN ENGLISH SAINT REMEMBERED

His was a hard death; partly because of his physical distress, and partly because he was very frightened of dying and going to Hell (though he probably had less cause for the latter apprehension than most of us). Nevertheless, even *in extremis* the idiosyncrasy of the man was always breaking in. He refused sedatives, because he was not going to "meet God in a state of idiocy, or with opium in his head". For some years he had refused invitations to visit Westminster Abbey: "No, not while I can keep out." He was worried about his black friend and servant he was leaving: "Attend, Francis, to the salvation of your soul, which is the object of greatest importance." He quoted Macbeth to the doctor, "Canst thou not minister to a mind diseas'd . . .", and composed a fervent prayer, "Bless my friends: have mercy upon all men." A young woman insisted on seeing him as he was dying, and he managed to say, "God bless you, my dear." His last words were the stiff-lipped old Roman gladiatorial ones, *Iam moriturus.*

Samuel Johnson died in the evening of 13 December 1784, two centuries ago. He is a more suitable patron saint for the English than our Palestinian soldier-saint, George, or that other candidate for the role, Thomas à Becket. For one thing Johnson spoke English. More than that, his work as lexicographer and Hercules of English literature, helped to make English the world language that it has become. The chief glory of the English is their language; and Johnson's *Dictionary*, the only one in any language compiled by a writer of genius, had a lot to do with its rise to glory. It is an irony that might have amused him eventually, after a bear's growl or two, that his *Life* written by his young Scottish friend is far more widely read than any of Johnson's own more literary works.

Samuel would have regarded as blasphemous any proposal for his canonization: he had a highly developed and neurotic sense of his own worthlessness. In that way, at least, he was not very English. But in his life he embodied many of the qualities that we like to think are ideally English. He was immensely clever, without ever becoming a remote intellectual. He was a robust patriot, without becoming a chauvinist, or losing his warm sympathy for all races and colours, from Hottentots to Princes of Abissinia, and even Scotsmen. He was a respectable, dignified, sober citizen, who was never too prim for a frisk with the lads. He was a thunderous controversialist, and he talked to win; but nobody was less of a blinkered bigot than he. "A wise Tory and wise Whig, I believe, will agree. Their principles are the same, though their modes of thinking are different."

He was a self-made man, having survived hard struggles, and owing his fame and success entirely to his talents, and not at all to patrons, old boy networks, or snobbery, the *Pox Britannica.* He got on with all sorts and conditions of men, from the King to the simplest in the land, who were not so far apart from each other as George supposed; but his closest friends were women. He was marvellously eccentric, not least in appearance and dress: the English have always liked a Falstaffian quality in their heroes. He was a majestic purist of language, but never a pedant. No, Boswell, the mountain is not immense, "but 'tis a considerable protuberance".

He was a very funny man. The deadliest insult to an Englishman or woman is to accuse him or her of having no sense of humour. Johnson was not only witty himself, sometimes apparently unintentionally (but don't you believe it); but he was also the cause of wit in other men.

Distance makes mountains out of mere protuberances. Two centuries make an immortal giant out of very human flesh and blood. Nevertheless, in remembering and honouring the death of a great Englishman, we would do well to revive some of the very English Johnsonian virtues that are a bit starved in our present national life. Where there is fanaticism, for Johnson's sake, let us have broadminded common sense. Where there are the caring industries, let us have compassion. When we are sure we are right, let us remember that even Whigs and Scots are human. Where we are bad-tempered and blinkered, let us remember Johnson, and not take ourselves seriously. When we are introspective and insular Little Englanders, let us copy Johnson's vision of all mortals from China to Peru, including slaves and West Indians, as equal children of God. Let us clear our minds of cant, and rant. Let us cultivate our sense of humour, and recognize that most of our sublunary schemes and preoccupations and bees in our bonnets are very laughable things.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Visual safety on the motorway

From Mr Alan K. McCombie

Sir, Motorway collisions in fog always occur because a driver thinks he is going slowly enough when in fact he is not. No amount of prior exhortation or penal deterrence can prevent this simple misjudgement.

What is required is a means of telling each driver, continuously, what his maximum speed should be. Some time ago, the following method occurred to me (it is obvious enough) and I am quite unable to see any fallacy in it.

It is that spaced reflectors be installed along the length of the carriageway, and the maximum legal speed at any point should then depend on the number of reflectors visible.

Such markers (small reflective tabs on posts) are already deployed along motorways, but their position, spacing, size and style make them unsuitable for this purpose. However, they nicely demonstrate the principle.

On a slightly misty night, six are visible. As the nearest one flashes by, a seventh appears in the distance. If they were suitably arranged and sequentially coloured, it could be stipulated that five in view meant 50 mph, four meant 40, and so on down.

The clarity of the indication would in fact increase with the density of fog. So would the safety margin, since the braking distance of a vehicle varies with the square of its speed.

No other proposed system even approaches the potential efficiency of this. It has clarity and moral force; it is inexpensive, yet it cannot break down. Above all, it is continuous. Present-day warning systems lack credibility because both the fog detectors and the displays are necessarily at intermittent points.

Undoubtedly the markers would have to be of cunning design. There would be a question of re-calibration for kilometres and other problems. As an engineer, I assert that a good development team would dispose of such difficulties.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN McCOMBIE,
43 Hillfield Park, N10.
December 11.

Merseyside to remain

From the Leader of Merseyside County Council

Sir, Your editorial (November 24) about the future of local government has some general merit but, when you deal with specifics, I am sorry, but you have got it wrong.

Merseyside is not divided, as you say, by a river. Well over 20 million tunnel journeys crossing it each year attest to that, let alone the 50,000 daily train journeys. Thousands of people living in Birkenhead or Wallasey are dependent for jobs and social facilities on what happens in Liverpool.

There is a job for a Merseyside countywide authority and indeed the Government's abolition case accepts both the continuation of the County of Merseyside and the effectiveness of many countywide services, including police, fire, public transport, museums and theatres. All the Government seeks to do is to abolish a directly elected and democratically accountable authority and replace it with more central control.

Finally, perhaps you could persuade the Government or Parliament itself to grant a proper independent inquiry into the structure of local government in all the metropolitan counties, including Merseyside, so that the county council's records can be put to the test.

No doubt I and our third minister for Merseyside will agree to give evidence.

Your faithfully,
KEVA COOMBES, Leader,
Merseyside County Council,
PO Box 95,
Metropolitan House,
Old Hall Street,
Liverpool.
December 4.

Letters to Russia

From Mr Patrick Lacey

Sir, Miss Judy Levy (December 5) may be too young, bless her, to remember a famous precedent for the Soviet GPO's or GPU's Catch 22 rule that "should an item sent by registered post to the USSR fail to be delivered, it is incumbent upon the proposed recipient to write confirming the non-receipt of said item".

Seventy years ago millions of us sang, often and *fortissimo:*

"Paddy wrote a letter to his Irish
Molly-O
Saying 'if you don't receive it, write
and let me know' "

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK LACEY,
Lime Villas,
Cavendish,
Suffolk.

No place to rent at Christmas time

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North (Labour)

Sir, This Christmas there will be tens of thousands of our fellow citizens without adequate accommodation. Undoubtedly a major reason for this is the large-scale reduction in public expenditure on housing, which has fallen by some 60 per cent since 1979-80. In my own borough, Walsall, for instance, no contracts have been entered into for new council housing since 1979.

In a brief, which a number of MPs have received from the Building Employers' Confederation, we were informed that they have estimated that, due to further cuts in 1984-85, housing starts in the public sector will be down a further 14 per cent (to 38,500). Improvement grants will be 17 per cent down on the previous year, and there will be a 6 per cent reduction in the renovation to the public-sector stock.

Much is made by ministers over the policy of selling council dwellings to sitting tenants, although, of course, no such right in law has been extended to private tenants.

As to be expected, very few flats indeed have been sold and, understandably, it has been the better housing stock which tenants have been more keen to buy, especially in view of the large discount involved. Therefore, for the first time, apart from the war years, there has been a substantial reduction in the rented sector and with no attempt by the Government to try to ensure that there are replacements for the dwellings sold.

As MPs and councillors know, through their surgeries and postbags, many families with children in multi-storey blocks are desperately anxious to move to a rented house, and far too many tenants continue to live in pre-war council dwellings where improvement work is urgently required. At the same time it seems that some 25 per cent of building and allied workers remain on the dole.

All post-war governments, up until now, have accepted some responsibility to ensure that there is an adequate supply of rented accommodation. Today, however, so many families are, and will remain, inadequately housed or, worse, totally homeless, due to a policy decision made five years ago that housing should take the brunt of public-expenditure cuts.

Yours etc,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.

From Mr Nicholas Fenton and the Rev Gerald Reddington

Sir, The Government has recently published proposals to restrict the payment of supplementary benefit for board and lodging to people living outside their home area. This is a response to the widely publicised "scandal" of young people taking long seaside holidays at the expense of the taxpayer. We feel it is appropriate to present a somewhat different perspective.

The main provisions are to restrict payment of board and lodging allowances to between two and four weeks to people aged 18 and over, and to refuse to pay 16 and 17-year-olds in all but the most exceptional circumstances.

The aim of this is clearly to encourage these young people to stay at home. Our experience is that most of these young people leave home because of intolerable pressures within the family and would become actually homeless if the proposals are implemented.

As a voluntary agency, working with over 2,000 young homeless people every year in central London, we are already conscious of the lack of acceptable accommodation for single people, particularly young single people, who wish, as adults, to live independently.

We are quite clear that most of the people we see are not "drifters" or "scroungers". The people we see daily have no wish to live in shared accommodation in bed-and-breakfast hotels which are often exploitative, overcrowded and uninspected, preferring instead the basic independence of their own home.

Among the other facilities provided by the voluntary sector are supportive hostels for those young people least able to cope with living independently. Presently, people stay for around six months and are often paying a charge based on DHSS board and lodging limits. As the new proposals do not specifically exclude hostels, we must assume they are included.

The practical effect of this may well be to close these hostels, often built with capital finance through the Department of the Environment with the participation of the Home Office, London Boroughs Association and the private sector.

The proposals are based on the assumption that people who have moved in order to seek employment should be able to find work in two to four weeks. In the present youth employment market, we believe this assumption is hopelessly unrealistic.

Even in those circumstances where people will be entitled to board and lodging payments, the suggested levels for central London mean that the kind of accommodation available will at best be squalid and overcrowded, and at worst non-existent.

While we accept that there has been some exploitation of the present regulations, we believe that the sledgehammer approach suggested will do great damage.

In our view, the primary reason for the increase in payments for board and lodging is the increase in homelessness. The Government could attack this by a programme of investment in housing, and a system of licensing and inspecting bed and breakfast hotels. It chose instead to attack a particularly vulnerable group, to make them even more vulnerable, and to undermine the funding arrangements of those voluntary agencies already swimming against the financial tide. If the proposals are carried through, it *could mean that literally thousands* of young people will be sleeping on the streets.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS FENTON, Director,
GERALD REDDINGTON,
Chairman,
Centrepoint Soho,
St Anne's House,
57 Dean Street, W1.
December 11.

Sunday trading

From Lady Warner

Sir, I feel strongly that, in the debate about Sunday trading, the importance of peaceful Sundays in areas such as this one (so close to Kensington High Street) should not be overlooked. Here, it is not what is sold on Sundays that matters, but the sort of shop by which it is sold.

Free Sunday opening by the little shops that serve only the local residents would be most welcome. But Sunday opening of the big shops that attract customers from far and wide would be quite another thing.

We already have, for six days each week, the environment that results from their trading, with the attendant excitement of traffic wardens and traffic jams. Free Sunday opening of those shops would take away from us the one quiet day a week we have.

I do not see, however, how such a distinction between categories of shops could be drawn, for the country as a whole, by an Act of Parliament. Some provincial towns now have big shopping complexes on their outskirts, the Sunday opening of which would harm nobody. Could not, therefore, the grant of permission to trade on Sunday be in the hands of the local authorities, as an extension perhaps of their powers under the Town and Country Planning Acts?

Yours faithfully,
SYLVIA F. WARNER,
32 Abingdon Villas, W8.
December 9.

From Mrs Elizabeth E. Hill

Sir, Heal's, Debenhams and others complain most correctly about shoplifting. It is breaking the law. And so is Sunday trading.

Yours sincerely,
ELIZABETH E. HILL,
Willows,
Pilley Hill,
Lymington, Hampshire.

VAT on publications

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, The Secretary General of the International Publishers Association is surely right when he suggests in his letter (December 4): "British voters should demand that their members of Parliament in Strasbourg request that VAT on books should be zero-rated throughout Europe, following the example of Great Britain, Ireland and Norway."

But the support of British MEPs may not be enough. The Chancellor of the Exchequer should put an end to all suggestions that we may have to tax newspapers and books in order to reduce the difference between our VAT base and the VAT levied in other EEC countries. He should then launch a vigorous campaign to persuade other EEC finance ministers to get in step with us. After all, when we joined the EEC, many of us told our constituents that the rest of Europe needed our guidance; and a British initiative in this direction should generate widespread support among continental newspapers and publishers.

If Nigel Lawson succeeded in winning such a campaign the indirect benefits to this country could be considerable.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons.
December 6.

Limits of the law

From Dr Ralph Beddard

Sir, Your editorial comment on Friday, November 30, headed "Limits of the law", was inspired by the recent judgement of the International Court of Justice concerning its jurisdiction to hear the case brought by Nicaragua against the United States.

It could equally have been written about the use of national courts in the settlement of disputes between the Government and powerful groups in society, and particularly, at the present time, the involvement of the courts in the miners' strike.

The International Court has always been faced with the problem of how far it should be used in disputes with high political content. In 1948 it said:

> The court cannot attribute a political character to a request which, framed in abstract terms, invites it to undertake an essentially judicial task, the interpretation of a treaty provision. It is not concerned with motives which may have inspired this request . . .

Although it was there answering a challenge to the propriety of an advisory opinion and not, as in the present instance, a contentious case, it indicates that a court's rôle is essentially to provide an answer to a question of law; whether this is of use in settling a dispute is dependent on many factors, not unimportant ones of which are the means of enforcement and the acceptance of the decision by the parties.

Those who look to the decisions of courts as imposing the order suitable for the enforcement of those decisions take an over-optimistic view of the function of law in society. You correctly report that states are notoriously reluctant to accept the International Court's jurisdiction.

The reasons for this include not only the dissatisfaction which some feel for the operation and procedures of the court, but also the realization that a relatively small proportion of disputes can be settled by judges.

The short-lived National Industrial Relations Court served to indicate that courts are likely to be little more than marginally contributive where the disputants are powerful entities each with a separate, vital interest in establishing its own pattern of rule-creative behaviour.

Irrespective of the fundamental beliefs or ideologies of either side, there must be, as you indicate in reference to international law but not to domestic courts, an understanding of the limited use not of law but of judicial determination.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH BEDDARD,
University of Southampton,
Faculty of Law,
Highfield,
Southampton,
Hampshire.
December 3.

Muffling a voice in Europe

From Mr Christopher Tugendhat and others

Sir, The Representation of the People Bill, now before Parliament, proposes to grant the right to vote in parliamentary and European elections to non-residents whose names appeared on an electoral roll within seven years of the date of an election.

The Home Secretary has acknowledged that the seven-year limit is arbitrary and is justified only by the assumption that absence is bound to make links with home grow weaker.

The Bill, if passed, would condemn to non-representation expatriates who have been abroad for more than seven years and who have had no opportunity to renew their electoral registration.

This disqualification will apply in particular to all but a few of the Britons who are members or staff members of European Community institutions outside Britain. Not being Crown servants they do not qualify for the service vote available to members of the diplomatic and Armed Services.

The Home Office argues that it would be discriminatory to enfranchise European Community staff but not expatriates who work abroad in the private sector; and indefensible to give voting rights to Britons who live in European Community member states only.

On the first point, the British Government has already recognised the distinctive status of Britons who work for Community institutions in the British Nationality Act of 1981. On the second point, the distinction between the treatment of members states of the European Community and non-members goes with Community membership.

We hope that Parliament will accept that Britons working in European Community institutions and their spouses should have the right to vote in Britain without limit of time.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER TUGENDHAT
(Vice-President, Commission of the European Communities, Brussels),
IVOR RICHARD (member of the Commission),
C. J. CAREY (member, Court of Auditors, European Communities, Luxembourg),
MICHAEL PALMER,
(Deputy Director General, Secretariat General of the European Parliament, Luxembourg),
C. R. ROSS (Vice-President, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg),
W. NICOLL (Director General, Secretariat General of the Council, Brussels),
Avenue Roger Vandendriessche 81,
1150 Brussels.
December 5.

Tax and the low paid

From Mr C. N. Beattie, QC

Sir, Mr Nigel Forman, MP, states in his letter to you (December 10) that no one has yet explained convincingly how higher tax thresholds will enable more of the employed to find work. The absence of explanation is due to the fact that most members of Parliament are too out of touch with real life to know the answer, and those few who do know lack the courage to say so in public.

The explanation is that a not inconsiderable number of the unemployed do not wish to take up available jobs, because they would rather be paid for doing nothing than work for not much extra money. Widening the gap between unemployment pay and pay for a job will induce some of such people to begin working again.

Yours faithfully,
C. N. BEATTIE,
24 Old Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.
December 10.

Greece and EEC

From Mr Y. Hitsos

Sir, As the first to introduce the element of blackmail in inter-European Community financial arguments (see her threat to let the EEC go broke by withholding Britain's total contribution to the EEC budget if the Community did not agree to a significant reduction of Britain's contribution to the EEC budget), Mrs Thatcher has neither the right, nor the authority, nor the power for that matter, to attack Mr Papandreou's use of similar tactics in pursuit of his own financial demands from the EEC.

The best she could do on this occasion, so soon after she brought the European Community to the brink of financial collapse, is to remain silent and let other more credible voices in the Community make whatever criticism is to be made of Mr Papandreou's behaviour.

Yours sincerely,
Y. HITSOS,
22 Lysia Street, SW6.
December 6.

Proof positive

From Dr John Penman

Sir, When Mr Ewart (December 5) calls for electronic cricket bats (tongue in cheek, I hope), he raises the question of what this erstwhile game has become. For some time it has been a religion and an industry, and now it is to be a subject for technological experiment.

May I suggest a small radar set on the batsman's head, to inform him, through auditory signals, on what axis the ball is spinning, in which direction and how fast? Powered roller-skates for the fielders are long overdue.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PENMAN,
Forest View,
Upper Chute,
Andover,
Hampshire.
December 5.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 12: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this evening attended the Rotary Club of Cirencester's evening of Christmas Music and Carols in Cirencester Parish Church (Vicar: the Reverend J. Lewis) in aid of the Parish Church Bells Appeal and the Home Farm Trust.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs Richard Carew Pole, was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Colonel M. St. J. Gibbs).

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 12: Brigadier Eileen Nolan today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Commander-in-Chief, Women's Royal Army Corps, upon relinquishing her appointment as Deputy Controller Commandant.

Brigadier Anne Field also had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming her appointment as Deputy Controller Commandant, Women's Royal Army Corps.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, a Master of the Middle Temple, was pleased to dine with her fellow Benchers at the Middle Temple this evening.

The Lady Grimthorpe and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 12: The Prince of Wales arrived at Lime Street Station, Liverpool this morning in the Royal Train.

His Royal Highness subsequently visited the Park Lane Hospital, Maghull, Liverpool.

In the afternoon The Prince of Wales visited Weller Street Housing Co-operative, Weller Way and Hesketh Street Housing Co-operative, Newland Court, Liverpool.

His Royal Highness later returned to Royal Air Force Northolt in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

Mr David Roycroft was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today received His Excellency Mr Seif Shariff Hamad, Chief Minister of Zanzibar.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 12: The Duke of Kent this morning attended a lecture at the Royal College of Defence Studies, Seaford House, 37, Belgrave Square, London SW1.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this morning visited Matchpoint, the Lawn Tennis Association's North West Training Centre at Handforth, Macclesfield, Cheshire, and later opened the first building of the Manchester Science Park.

Her Royal Highness, as Patron, this evening attended a Carol Concert in aid of the National Society of Cancer Relief at the Anglican Cathedral, Liverpool.

The Duchess, who returned to London in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Alan Henderson.

A memorial service for Lord Howard of Henderskelfe will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, at noon today.

A memorial service for Mr Ron Bloss will be held at St Luke's, Sydney Street, at 11am today.

Forthcoming marriages

Captain A. C. Ford and Miss R. M. Birkett
The engagement is announced between Andrew Ford, Grenadier Guards, elder son of Major and Mrs Charles Ford, of South Farm, Pawlett, Somerset, and Rosalind, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Birkett, of the Coach House, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Somerset.

Mr J. J. Macnamara and Baroness M. Schoenberg
The engagement is announced between James Justin, younger son of Mr and Mrs P. C. Macnamara, of Inverchaoran House, Ardgay, Rosshire, and Marcelle, daughter of Baron and Baroness Witold Schoenberg, of Mount Armstrong, Donadee, co Kildare.

Captain J. W. Rye, RM and Miss P. R. Simms, WRAC
The engagement is announced between John Walter, son of Mr and Mrs G. M. Rye, of West Dulwich, London, and Penelope Ruth, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Simms, of Bracknell, Berkshire.

Mr C. C. W. Whitamore and Miss M. J. Shaw
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr J. A. Whitamore of Easton-on-the-Hill, Northamptonshire and the late Mrs Patricia Whitamore and Miranda, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. C. Shaw, of South Woodford, London.

Marriages

Mr J. Morrison-Bell and Mrs P. Elkington
The marriage took place on Wednesday, November 28, of Mr Julian Francis Tarret Morrison-Bell, younger son of the late Sir Charles Morrison-Bell, Bt, and of Prudence, Lady Morrison-Bell, of Highgreen, Tarset, Northumberland, and Mrs Penelope Josephine Elkington, daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel R. Taylor and the Hon. Mrs Taylor of Chipchase Castle, Wark-on-Tyne, Northumberland.

Mr T. Nicol and Miss A. J. Thompson
The marriage took place in Newcastle upon Tyne on December 8 between Mr Theodore Nicol, youngest son of Professor and Mrs Donald M. Nicol, and Miss Amanda Jane Thompson, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Thompson, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Crossword championship

By Our Crossword Editor

The qualifying puzzle for the 1985 Collins Dictionaries *Times* Crossword Championship will be published in *The Times* on February 7.

The regional finals will be held as follows:
Glasgow, Central Hotel (capacity 300 competitors), Sunday, March 31; Leeds, Queen's Hotel (300), Sunday, April 21; Bristol, Grand Hotel (170), Sunday, May 19; London A, Saturday, June 1, and London B, Sunday, June 2, Park Lane Hotel (300).

The national final will be held in London at the Park Lane Hotel on Sunday, September 8.

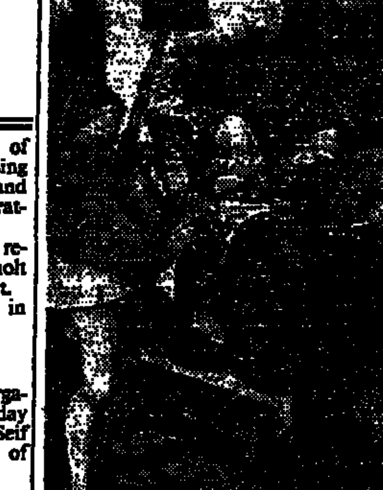
The number of correct solutions to the qualifying puzzle received from each area last year was: Glasgow, 122, Leeds, 291; Bristol, 310; and London, 1,179.

Latest wills

Broadmead, Mrs Nina Joyce, of Kingston St Mary, Somerset £206,915
Caley, Mr John Leonard, of Flinton, North Humberside £439,412
Crick, Mr Kenneth John Hale, of Stone, Staffordshire, solicitor £304,162
Elton, Mr Maurice, of Bushey, Hertfordshire £265,156
Ford, Mr Geoffrey, of Nantwich, Cheshire £241,586
Hayes, Hilda Miriam, of Exmouth, Devon £205,763

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr Eric Wrintmore to be a circuit judge on the South-eastern circuit.



A detail from Pieter Brueghel the Younger's "Wedding Feast", which sold for £660,000.

Sale room snip for gallery

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The National Portrait Gallery yesterday bought at auction a charming eighteenth-century group portrait of Burckat Shudi, London's leading harpsichord maker, and his family in their parlour for £165,000 (estimate £150,000 to £200,000).

The painting had been offered to them privately by Sotheby's on behalf of the Broadwood Trust for a significantly higher price, believed to have been around £250,000.

Burckat, who came to England from Switzerland, is shown seated at one of his harpsichords in the company of his wife, two sons and the cat. It was painted to fit over the fireplace in their panelled parlour in Great Poulteney Street, the room depicted.

They moved into the house in 1742, a date which has helped confirm the identity of the artist, long a mystery. Sotheby's had catalogued the painting as "Italian School, circa 1742".

The National Portrait Gallery has traced it to the hand of a German artist, Karl Marcus Tuscher, who spent the years 1741-43 in London on his way from Italy to Copenhagen. Most of his work is in Scandinavia.

It is rare to find a painting of such exceptional quality without the identity of the artist leaping to the eye of experts on the period. The lack of attribution probably put bidders off, and helped the gallery to buy it cheaply. The National Heritage Memorial Fund is providing funds towards the purchase.

The painting was included in Sotheby's major autumn sale of Old Master paintings, which proved exceptionally successful, making a total of £3.7m and 5 per cent left unsold.

A "Wedding Feast", painted by Pieter Brueghel the Younger after a famous composition by his father, was sold for £660,000 (estimate £200,000 to £250,000) to a European private collector.

Receptions

Royal Institute of British Architects
An evening party was held by the Council Dinner Club of the Royal Institute of British Architects on Monday December 10 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first council meeting on December 1834. In addition to many council members past and present and their guests the occasion was attended by the following honorary fellows with their husbands and wives:



The Duke of Grafton, the Earl of Perth, Lord Bullock, Lord Kennet, Lord Reilly, Baroness Denington, Sir Terence Conran, Dame Sylvia Crowe, Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, Sir Douglas Logan, Sir Peter Trench, Mr Leslie Bilsby, Mr Courtney Blackmore, Mr Colin Boyne, Dr William Brown, Mrs Irene Chaplin, Mr Alec Clifton-Taylor, Mrs Leonie Cohn, Mr Tom Colchester, Mr David Dean, Mrs Jane Fawcett, Professor Ruth Glass, Mr Ian Hannah, The very Rev John Hussey, Mr Leslie Julius, Mr Ian Leslie, Mr Malcolm MacEwen, Dr Rowland Mainstone, Mr Michael Middleton, Mrs Molly Montgomery, Mr Frank Newby, Mr Edward (Max) Nicholson, Professor Patrick O'Sullivan, Mrs Monica Pidgeon, Mr Jon Pritchard and Mr John Smith.

A painting by Mr Ben Johnson was presented to the institute by Mr Robert Evans on behalf of British Gas. The toast to the institute was proposed by Lord Bullock.

British Philippine Society
The British Philippine Society held its Christmas reception at the Philippine Embassy yesterday. The Philippine Ambassador, President and Mr I. F. Sutherland, chairman, were the hosts.

Sense
Mr Rodney Clark was host at a reception given last evening on behalf of Sense, the National Campaign for Deaf-Blind and Rubella Handicapped, in HMS President, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer, Captain Henry Roberts.

Dinners

Middle Temple
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother dined in the hall of the Middle Temple with her fellow Masters of the Bench (Treasurer, Lord Justice Ackner) and with members and students of the inn to commemorate the 40th anniversary of her election as a Royal Bencher.

A new scholarship fund, known as the Queen Mother's fund, to help new entrants to the Bar, was announced by Lord Justice Ackner, treasurer of the Middle Temple.

Speaker
The Speaker and Mrs Bernard Weatherill gave a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday evening. Those present included:
Lord and Lady Stodart of Leaston, the Hon Alick Buchanan-Smith, MP, and Mrs Buchanan-Smith, Mr Alan Williams, MP, and Mrs Williams, Dr Jeremy Bray, MP, and Mrs Bray, Mr Peter Bruinvels, MP, and Mrs Bruinvels, Mr Richard Caborn, MP, and Mrs Caborn, Sir Cecil Clothier, QC, Miss Lucy Clothier, Mr Derek Foster, MP, and Mrs Foster, Mr Roger Freeman, MP, and Mrs Freeman, Mr Roger Gale, MP, and Mrs Gale, Mr Peter Hardy, MP, and Mrs Hardy, Mr Robert Hayward, MP, and Mrs Hayward, Mr James Hill, MP, and Mrs Hill, Lieutenant-General Sir David and Lady House, Mr Douglas Hoyle, MP, and Mrs Hoyle, Mr Archy Kirkwood, MP, and Mrs Kirkwood, Mr Ian Lang, MP, and Mrs Lang, Sir Kenneth Lewis, MP, and Lady Lewis, Mr Terry Patchett, MP, Mr and Mrs Frank Allen and Father David Campbell.

Peace through Nato
Lord Home of the Hirsel presided at a commemorative dinner held in the Great Hall, Lincoln's Inn, last night to mark 35 years of peace and security within the framework of Nato and retirement of the guest of honour, Dr Joseph Luns, CH, as secretary-general.

Sir Frederic Bennett, MP, Leader of the British Parliamentary delegation to the Western European Union (Defence) Assembly, Sir Peter Blaker, MP, deputy chairman, Peace through Nato, and Major Sir Patrick Wall, MP, Leader of the British Parliamentary delegation to the North Atlantic Assembly, were the hosts. Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, proposed the toast to the guest of honour. The guests included:



Ambassadors, high commissioners and other members of the diplomatic corps, Mme Luns, Lady Home of the Hirsel, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, and Lady Lloyd, Lord and Lady Mulley, Baroness Young.

Dr Geoffrey Young, Dr David Owen, MP, and Mrs Owen, Lady Bennett, Lady Blaker, Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas and Lady Kennedy, Sir Clive Whitmore, the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff and Lady Hall, the Vice-Chief of the General Staff and Lady Glover, Vice-Admiral Sir John and Lady Woodward, Mrs Heseltine, the President and the Secretary-General of the Western European Union, Judge Argyle, QC, and Mrs Argyle and Major-General and Mrs J M C Garrod.

Queen Mary College
A dinner was held at Drapers' Hall last night to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the presentation of the Royal Charter to Queen Mary College. Among the guests were:
Mr Peter Shore, MP, and Dr Shore, the Chairman of the Queen Mary College Governing Body and Lady Drew, the Vice-Chancellor of London University, the Principal of London University and Mrs Taylor, the Dean of the London Hospital Medical College and Mrs Floyer, the Dean of St Bartholomew's Medical College and Mrs Kelsey-Fry and Mr Ian Mikardo, MP, and Mrs Mikardo.

Commonwealth Professional Associations
Dr Maurice Goldsmith, President of the Commonwealth Association of Science Technology and Mathematics Educators, presided at a dinner given yesterday evening at the Athenaeum by representatives of Commonwealth Professional Associations in honour of Mr P. L. U. Cross, Chairman of the Commonwealth Foundation, after he had delivered the inaugural Commonwealth Professional Associations' lecture at the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Charterhouse
The Charterhouse Founders' Day dinner was held at Charterhouse last night. The speakers were the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr Eric Harrison, Master, Mr Peter Attenborough, Headmaster of Charterhouse School, Mr R. L. Arrowsmith, and Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore.

Durbar Club
Mr Peter Walker, MP, Secretary of State for Energy, was chief guest and speaker at a dinner held on Tuesday by the Durbar Club at the Institute of Directors. Other guests included:
Sir Peter Lane, the Hon Archie Hamilton, MP, Mr Cyril Townsend, MP, Mr George Gardiner, MP, Sir Malby Crofton, Mr Tim Renton, MP, and Mr Ivor Stanbrook, MP. Mr Narindar Saroop, chairman of the club, presided.

Institute of Public Relations
The council dinner of the Institute of Public Relations was held at the Institute of Directors in Pall Mall last night. Mr Kevin Traverse-Healy was installed as president of the Institute for 1985. Mr Peter Smith, President of the Institute, welcomed the guests.

Valiant for Truth Media Award

The 1984 Valiant for Truth Media Award, made to Miss Caroline Moorehead, will be presented by Mrs Odette Hallowes, GC, on Tuesday, December 18, at the Press Club.



Lord Flowers appointed

Lord Flowers, aged 60, Rector of Imperial College London, who was yesterday named the next Vice-Chancellor of London University in succession to Professor Randolph Quirk.

He is committed to uphold the academic and financial policies of Professor Quirk which involve streamlining subjects and forcing colleges to merge.

Birthdays today

The Aga Khan, 48; Lord Alexander of Potterhill, 79; Sir Terence Beckett, 61; the Hon Sir George Bellew, 85; General Arnold Brown (Salvation Army), 71; Lord Bullock, 70; Mr Glen Byam Shaw, 80; Dr Arthur Cooke, 72; Sir John Dean, 85; Mr John Francome, 32; Dr Douglas Latto, 71; Professor W. H. McCrea, 80; Mr John Piper, CH, 81; Mr Christopher Plummer, 55; Sir John Pope-Hennessy, 71; Sir Humphrey Prideaux, 69; Mr George Schultz, 64; Professor G. D. Sims, 58; Major-General Sir David Thorne, 51; Sir Laurens van der Post, 78; General Sir Peter Whiteley, 64.

Luncheon

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association
Mr Denzil Davies, MP, was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain at the Waldorf Hotel. Mr Sidney Weiland, president, was in the chair.

Meeting

Society of Construction Arbitrators
The second general meeting of the Society of Construction Arbitrators was held at the Arts Club, Dover Street, London SW1, on Thursday, December 6 1984. The president of the Society, Mr Norman Royce, gave a talk on the history and work of the Official Referees and the Official Referees' Court Users Committee and this was followed by a discussion.

Science report

Fluid physics takes to the air

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

An unusual experiment in weightlessness begins today in a research project supported by the Department of Trade and Industry, the European Space Agency and the Kodak company.

It will take place in an aircraft of the United States Air Force modified to create the low-gravity conditions of weightlessness.

Dr John Padday, a Kodak scientist, will be subjected to the steep turns, referred to astronauts in training as Keplerian loops.

Each loop will last for 28 seconds, during which time Dr Padday and a colleague will conduct experiments associated with fluid physics. Kodak's interest in the basic science of the behaviour of fluids is related to its manufacturing of absolutely uniform films produced from perfect mixtures of complex compounds.

Photographic film is, in effect, a multilayer sandwich of different emulsions, which are applied in a fluid form. Dr Padday, who is based at Kodak's research division in Harrow, north London, will measure the changes in the behaviour of such substances when gravity is reduced.

The flying laboratory, made from adapting a KC-135A four-engined turbojet, will take off from National Aeronautics and Space Administration's centre at Houston, Texas, today and tomorrow. The experimental area is about 60ft long, 10ft wide and 7ft high.

The experiments are not the first in low-gravity conditions. The firm conducted the first commercially sponsored experiments last year, with Spacelab-1, carried on board the space shuttle.

That test, devised by Dr Padday, was to observe the attraction of a liquid by a solid in the absence of gravitational drainage.

OBITUARY

MR WILL PAYNTER

Former general secretary of the NUM

Mr Will Paynter, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, from 1959 to 1968, and one of the leading British Communists of his generation, died on December 11 at the age of 81. In his day an influential industrial figure and an indefatigable leader of the mineworkers, Paynter was largely responsible for the establishment of a unified wage structure for miners, a key factor in the unity with which the NUM prosecuted its industrial campaigns in the 1970s.

Thomas William Paynter was born at Whitchurch, on the outskirts of Cardiff, on December 6, 1903. He went to Whitchurch and Porth elementary schools and started his working life as a pit boy in the Rhondda when he was 13. He joined the South Wales Miners' Federation in 1918. He was actively involved in the General Strike of 1926 and shortly afterwards joined the Communist Party. He took part in the Hunger marches of the early 1930s and led a contingent of Welsh miners to fight in the International Brigade in the Spanish Civil War.

He became an executive committee member of the SWMF in 1936, a miners' agent in Rhymney in 1939, and was elected president of the South Wales miners – by then an area of the National Union of Miners – in 1951, with a clear majority over his Labour party opponent.

Paynter was elected general secretary of the National Union in April 1959. He secured 249,638 votes on the final count, compared with 197,334 for the non-Communist Sidney Ford, who was later to become Union president.

By accident, owing to the sudden death of the miners' nominee, Alwyn Machen of Yorkshire, he was elected to the TUC General Council in September 1960. He served for one year but was knocked off because his fellow general council members disliked his politics, even though they liked him personally, respected his integrity and ability, and admitted that he had proved a useful member of various TUC committees.

Like Arthur Horner, whom he succeeded as general secretary of the NUM, Paynter promised to put the interests of the miners before those of the Communist party – though, in his view, these usually coincided. When he was elected he declared he would follow a threefold objective: to advance the men's living standards, stop further pit closures and defeat Tory attacks on nationalization. He never seemed to suffer from the dilemma of having to serve two masters which had tormented his predecessor. In his own words "Politics take second place to the trade union job . . . loyalty to the trade union and its decisions came first."

Paynter took over the Union leadership at a difficult time for the coal industry. For about ten years after the war coal was scarce and the miners were able to gain almost everything they asked for, including most of the demands in their Miners' Charter. But the growth of competition from oil and the relative decline of coal as a fuel made it increasingly difficult to bargain with the National Coal Board, even under a sympathetic chairman like Lord Robens.

Paynter campaigned vigorously for a national fuel policy and publicly condemned the Labour Government for failing to give coal the priority which the miners expected as their right.

After his retirement from the NUM Paynter became a member of the Commission on Industrial Relations in 1969, resigning his membership of the Communist Party at the same time. When, however, the commission was made part of its Industrial Relations Act by the incoming Conservative Government of 1970 he resigned from it. From 1972, however, he played a useful part as a member of the Arbitration Panel for what is now the Advisory, Arbitration and Conciliation Service (Acas).

His autobiography, *My Generation*, appeared in 1972.

Small and wiry, Paynter bore to the end the physical and mental scars of his early days as a collier in South Wales. He was extremely knowledgeable about miners' industrial diseases and accidents, and determined to reduce their toll. A persuasive speaker, he marshalled his facts and arguments incisively and like all Welshmen, had a natural and easy command of language.

He was the father of seven boys.

MR VICTOR SHKLOVSKY

Victor Borisovich Shklovsky, critic, novelist, memoirist and father of Russian Formalism, died on December 8 in Moscow at the age of 91.

He was born in 1893 at St. Petersburg, and studied literary history at the university there. He also studied sculpture and architecture. He was the chief founder of *Opoyaz*, the Society for the Study of Poetic Language.

He lived abroad from 1922 to 1923, but returned to Russia and chose to remain there, his position in Soviet literature being somewhat akin to that of the composer Dimitri Shostakovich in Soviet music: an original and profoundly patriotic genius, sympathetic to some of the aims of the Revolution but seriously undermined through having to compromise with Stalinism.

But the lively and gifted Shklovsky was not as well known as he should have been: most countries would have been proud of him, but the Soviets, tragically, could never afford to be generous to true originality.

Shklovsky's earliest work is essentially anti-political. Like the distinguished linguistician Roman Jakobson, who chose exile and whom Shklovsky influenced at a crucial stage, he took much of his inspiration from the great futurist poet Khlebnikov and (to a lesser extent) Mayakovsky.

He was also a member of the Serapion Brotherhood, a group of writers which included Zamyatin and Leonov, and which proclaimed the independence of art from all political commitment. Zamyatin regarded Shklovsky with great respect, but found him formidably dry, and spoke of his "arithmetic".

Briefly, the theory of Formalism pronounced that all art consisted of technique: literary works were but the sum of stylistic devices. This is the message of Shklovsky's over-confident, useful, but pungent 1917 polemic "Iskusstvo kak Pririyom" (translated as "Art as Technique," 1965).

This stood tradition on its head, anticipated literary structuralism, and gave symbolism a new impetus but, as Zamyatin wrote from exile in Paris, at the end of the 1920s "Formalism did not live to make its appearance in the theatre . . . it did not survive the onslaught of RAPP (Stalin's Russian Association of Proletarian Writers) . . . Shklovsky repudiated the Formalist heresy forever".

But Shklovsky was inventive and by no means only a critic: he was a creative writer of genius. A devotee of Laurence Sterne, he had written in 1923 *Sentimentalnoye Puteshestviye* (translated as: *A Sentimental Journal: Memoirs 1917-1922* in 1971), a marvellously varied account of his experience in the Revolution and ensuing civil war: this, with candour, humour, forays into literary criticism, and sudden lyrical interjections, remains a masterpiece – and an invaluable source book – yet to be discovered in the West.

The autobiographical epistolary novel *Zoo Ili Pisma No O Lyubvi* (1923) was translated as *Zoo or Letters Not About Love* (1971).

After 1928 and a series of "official apologies" and the ironic invention of "Socio-formalism" Shklovsky abandoned literary criticism and turned his attention to film, historical fiction (A time-honoured device for writers in "inner exile") and memoirs. His book on Mayakovsky (1941: translated as *Mayakovsky and his circle* 1971) is remarkable and the best.

There were some understandably timid but nevertheless always sensible and enlightening volumes of literary criticism written in the ferocious final years of Stalin. Then Shklovsky recovered his form again, with an incisive work on Dostoyevsky published in 1957.

This was followed by more excellent criticism. When Shklovsky is properly rediscovered in the West it will soon be discerned that he was a great critic, a major creative writer – of higher calibre than some other far better known Russians – who survived Stalinism and operated, often with incomparably subtle irony, under hostile conditions with a remarkable degree of success.

Mr Clarke Tait, who died on December 6 at the age of 49, was Head of Entertainment at Scottish Television and responsible for popular programmes including *Take the High Road*, *Hoagy* and *The Corries and Other Folk*.

Herr Anton Betz, who died in Düsseldorf on December 11 at the age of 91, was a journalist who was imprisoned in the 1930s for his anti-Nazi articles and who after the Second World War became a co-founder and publisher of the *Rheinische Post*. He served a term as president of the Federal Association of Newspaper Publishers.

Lord Geoffrey William Percy, fourth son of the 8th Duke of Northumberland, KG, died suddenly in the North Devon Infirmary on December 4 at the age of 59.



THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

BP sets a trend for in-house banking

British Petroleum is as aware as any oil major that it is as important to manage cash with at least the skill and application it brings to oil. The company has an active foreign exchange department, handling the massive dollar transactions, it has now incorporated this in a banking unit: BP Finance International.

BPFI does not take deposits from third parties and this will not need Bank of England approvals. It will handle functions usually undertaken by financial advisers, who will still be engaged, more selectively, when BP is required to have independent advice. It will be the job of an estimated 80 staff based in London and under the aegis of group treasurer, Mr John Browne, to offer a range of specialized banking services to BP's 11 businesses and associated companies in Britain and overseas.

Money volumes for BP run at about £250,000 a day and although figures are difficult to come by, the business of managing money could run at £3 billion a year. As a full service bank BPFI will have specialized commercial and merchant banking departments, handling project finance, new business proposals mergers, acquisitions and disposals. It will devise and oversee financial policies and strategies for the group, and manage BP's relationships with the financial community and its shareholders.

This formal move into banking is an imaginative acknowledgement that a company's cash, particularly when it is as large as BP's, can become a profit-centre in its own right. It is also in tuen with the mood of change in the City and the elevation of "financial services" into a high profile, growth industry.

The fascinating question is the size and direction of BP's external banking ambitions.

Leadership needed at Charter

Rarely are stiff upper lips maintained with such aplomb as they were yesterday by senior executives of Charter Consolidated as they unveiled the financial horrors caused by events of recent months. The six months to September 30 were an unmitigated disaster. As Oscar Wilde might have said: to write off substantial amounts on one investment is unfortunate, to write off substantial amounts on two is sheer carelessness.

The figures speak for themselves. A £46.4 million loss on the disposal of Johnson Matthey Bankers and costs of £18.2 million relating to the rationalization of Cape Industries have left an ugly scar on the profit and loss account below *the line*.

Above the line the picture is equally depressing. Interim pretax profits of £7.7 million were not as bad as some had expected but they are well down on the £22 million reported a year ago. Losses at Cape and Johnson Matthey's decision not to pay a dividend contributed to the poor trading performances, but there is little comfort in Charter's interests which remained plague proof. Even the normally reliable investment portfolio failed to live up to expectations. The surplus on realizations was a meagre £401,000 which is attributable more to poor investment management than market conditions.

The Charter management may put on a brave face and say that it is over the worst but the aftermath of the Cape and JMB disasters will see a further drain on cash flow as the two companies are put back on their feet.

Charter's balance sheet is strong enough to withstand pressures and its gearing of 27 per cent poses no real threat. Therein lies Charter's problem. Sitting on a strong asset backing, it was just too comfortable. The board's inability to create any kind of corporate indentity or to evolve a coherent has finally come home to roost. The group cries out for a powerful and dedicated management.

Problems of index linked gilts

Some three and a half years ago, the Bank of England issued its first index-linked gilt, partly in a bid to cut the excessive cost of public sector funding. A 2 per cent coupon on the stock, Treasury Index-Linked 1996, clearly made sense in the context of comparable yields in the 13½ per cent region. Investors, grudgingly at first, bought the stock, and subsequently bought others despite misgivings about the open-ended nature of the repayment liability.

Go the initial questions remain unanswered, mainly because inflation has fallen sharply. Nevertheless, the introduction of indexed gilts may prove to have been the most ill-judged move made by the authorities.

For essential virtue of index-linked gilts is that they enable investors, for the first time, to price the market more accurately. Traders now have too much knowledge for the Bank of England's comfort about its funding operations.

Mr Stephen Lewis, gilt-edged seen at Phillips and Drew, tackled these questions at the stockbroker's investment seminar yesterday. According to the Lewis model of the gilt-edged market, yields can be broken down into three components: real yield, an inflation adjustment element; and a risk premium which remains fairly constant.

Such a forensic approach, of course, is not new. What is novel is the way that an index-linked proxy for any particular stock now enables investors to work out the market's real yield requirements and its inflation expectations.

According to Mr Lewis, the differential between fixed-coupon and index-lined yields leads investors towards the other components of fixed-coupon yields. This differential has tracked the decline in the inflation rate fairly closely in the past two years. But the market may be fast approaching a sea-change.

Inflation may be set to start rising, while the outlook for real yields, currently about 3¼ per cent, is more problematical, mainly because the sluggish British economy cannot justify such a high figure. If so real yields would fall and index-linked stocks would rise in price.

By the same token, conventional gilts should perform relatively poorly, since a rise in inflation expectations must be followed by an increase in conventional yields. On this basis, the argument in favour of a switch from conventional stocks into index linked is strong.

Such an analysis would have been impossible before index-linked stock were introduced. Equally, gilts would, perhaps, not have hesitated, as much as they have done in the current cycle at the 10 per cent yield barrier.

Maxwell concedes defeat in £44m bid for Waddington

By Philip Robinson and William Kay

John Waddington last night was assured of victory in fighting off a £44 million takeover bid from Mr Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communication Corporation. It is the second time Waddington has defeated Mr Maxwell's bids in as many years.

Mr Maxwell conceded defeat just before 4.30 yesterday afternoon, even though his bid does not technically expire until 3pm today.

The deciding factor was a placing by Cazenove, the stockbrokers, of 14.6 per cent stake in Waddington of its funds under management. These went to a wide variety of institutions thought to suppport the Waddington board.

However, the sale price of 507.5p per share was just above the 500p cash being offered by BPCC. When the shares came on offer late Tuesday night, the asking price was thought to be 520p.

A spokesman for Warburg Investment Management said: "The first thing we must say is that we normally support the management and we have done this and accepted what is a very attractive price for us."

Last night Waddington's shares dropped 18p to 502p.

Mr Maxwell said: "I conceded so that everyone would now where they stand and in the interests of an orderly *market. This was not a ploy by* me, but we could still win if the share price falls below 500p. It is still open to the institutions to change their mind".

However, in a formal statement earlier, BPCC said that after the sale by an uncommitted institution of 1.2 million shares, (14.6 per cent) this added to the 45 per cent already announced as being committed to Waddington make it impossible for BPCC's bid to succeed.

Mr Victor Watson, Waddington chairman, said: "I am confident but not complacent. I am very pleased at being able to fight off Mr Maxewll for a second time".



Victor Watson: 'confident but not complacent'

BPCC says it is considering its position. Britain's largest printing company sitll holds a 23 per cent stake in Waddington.

Mr Watson added: "I hope he will sell his shares and go away. I do not want him as a shareholder but I cannot predict what will happen. Mr Maxwell is unpredictable".

Waddington and Kleinwort Benson, its merchant bank advisor, have already challenged the ultimate ownership of the BPCC stake which rests with a Liechtenstein-registered company, Pergamon Holding Foundation.

Under British law a company is entitled to know the ultimate beneficial ownership of its shareholders. Refusal to reveal this will run the risk of shares being disenfranchised by the High Court and dividend payments on those shares suspended.

So far, Mr Maxwell has said that the ownership of the foundation is a private matter. But he is expected to announce next week that ultimate control lies with the French family interests of his wife, and thereby avoid any High Court action.

12.6% stake in Vosper for NRDC

The National Research Development Corporation, an off shoot of the government's industrial holding company British Technology Group, is taking a 12.6 per cent stake in the enlarged equity of Vosper, the shipbuilding and repairing company.

The £1.5m proceeds of the placing of 816,000 shares at 183.3p will go to Vosper Hovermarine to enable it to pay £1.5 million to NRDC and to Hovercraft Development, a subsidiary of NRDC. Hovermarine owes NRDC and HD a total of £2.2 million.

Vosper says it will show a [illegible] loss of £1 million for the year to October 31, 1984 against a [illegible] profit in 1982/3 of [illegible] million. While trading remains difficult, the company says, the number of order inquiries with real potential has improved substantially in the last six months.

EEC mortgages proposal

EEC citizens should be allowed to use any building society or credit system in the community when they want to obtain a mortgage, the European Commission has decided.

It put forward proposals yesterday aimed at helping people to move from one another when buying a new home. It wants to see the scheme adopted by 1987.

The idea is that each country should recognize the existing systems in other countries.

Profits dip

Northern Foods has reported a slight dip in pretax profits which fell from £27.9 million to £27 million, the first decline for 10 years. Turnover also fell from £656.9 million to £612.7 million in the six months to September 30. An unchanged interim dividend of 4.25p is proposed.

Tempus, page 19

Tate gains

Tate & Lyle, raised pretax profits for the year ending September 29 by 21 per cent to £69.2 million. The sugar company also announced that it will pay $43.2 million (£36 million) for the Agri-Products Division of Beatrice Inc. The final dividend is 12.5p net.

Tempus, page 19

Flat cider

The cider business has gone somewhat flat for the Herefordshire producers, H. P. Bulmer, best known for the Strongbow and Woodpecker brands. Pretax profits for the half year to October fell by 22 per cent to £7.2 million. The interim dividend is being maintained at *2.24p. But the shares were down* 10p at 154p. The Chancellor gets the blame for raising the excise duty on cider by 47 per cent in the last Budget.

Plants to close

Grove, Cranes, which exports cranes throughout the world, is to close two plants in Oxfordshire, with the loss of 400 jobs. The company says the plants in Oxford and Bicester will close by spring because of the recession in the mobile crane market.

BAe cleared on Airbus cover

By John Lawless

British Aerospace has failed to win government backing for the sale of 40 Tornado fighter aircraft to Britain's Nato ally, Turkey – but is, after all, to be given the insurance cover it needs to sell seven European Airbus there.

This was disclosed yesterday when Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, was being questioned by the Commons Trade and Industry Committee *about the operations of the* Export Credits Guarantee Department.

The committee had heard a complaint from Sir Raymond Lygo, managing director of British Aerospace, last week. He said that the sale of both aircraft was apparently being blocked by Treasury concern over Turkish creditworthiness, while the Department of Trade and Industry appeared ready to take a "more realistic" view.

The committee's chairman, Mr Kenneth Warren – MP for Hastings and Rye, and an aeronautical engineer – said yesterday that he had been writing to Mrs Thatcher for two months about the Tornado deal.

It was worth $1 billion (£833 million) in total, with British Aerospace having a 42.5 per cent share, in partnership with West German and Italian manufacturers.



Paul Channon: questioned by MPs

He said that the Prime Minister had now replied, saying that Turkey was "not a viable market" for the Tornado at the moment.

It was not clear whether a reply direct from Mrs Thatcher is confirmation of the Cabinet row over the deal which the aerospace industry believes has taken place over the deal. Specifically at issue is whether the Export Credit Guarantees Department (which reports to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry) should be allowed to insure the deal for which the Treasury has a statutory responsibility to give its consent.

Mr Channon refused to be drawn on newspaper reports about the row, but said that Turkey had rescheduled debts worth £120 million, which will not now be paid until 1992.

The Government has now increased the Airbus insurance cover to 85 per cent

Reagan 'not allowed' to end council

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan's proposal to abolish the US Council of Economic Advisers has run into strong criticism from Congressmen who claim he does not have the authority to rid himself of the influential advisory body.

A *spokesman for the Joint* Congressional Economic Committee said yesterday a growing number of Congressmen will fight to save the three-member council on grounds it was created by Congress in 1946 to advise the President on things he may not want to hear about employment and economic growth.

The controversy over the council, and two other advisory bodies Mr Reagan proposes to abolish, arose as a group of leading economic forecasters released studies criticizing the US treasury's sweeping tax reform proposal.

Both Wharton Econometrics and the National Association of Manufacturers concluded that the Treasury's modified "flat tax" proposal will retard rather than accelerate growth by reducing business investment, increasing consumption, raising the cost of capital and promoting sales of imports.

The cost of capital under the Treasury plan would increase by 15 per cent in 1986, rising to 20 per cent on average for manufaturing companies after 10 years, according to the Wharton study.

Chase Econometrics, in a separate study, concluded this would reduce business investment and eventually result in lower overall growth.

Treasury officials declined to comment on the studies, saying they expect to release their own analysis of the plan.

Meanwhile, congressional critics said it will require special legislation to abolish the council of economic advisers which has been a thorn in Mr Reagan's side for the last two years.

Small firms draw £80m investment

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Investment in small businesses through the Business Expansion Scheme (BES) with its tax-relief incentives to individual investors amounted to about £80 million during 1983-84. Two-thirds of those benefiting were *young start-up companies.*

This emerged yesterday from a new Treasury analysis of BES progress. It means more investment has gone into small businesses via this route than was suggested last month by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor.

A total of £73 million was invested in 312 companies during this year, reflecting investments known sofar, through approved investment funds. But at least a further 100 companies are now believed to have raised money directly from investors. These add*itional investments may have* amounted to a further £5 million, according to the Treasury's latest *Economic Progress Report.*

Since the average level at which tax relief is given is running at about 50 per cent, the cost to the Inland Revenue in the year is likely to be about £40 million.

Two-thirds of companies involved in BES were start-up businesses less than five years old, the survey shows. They accounted for well over half of the total investments.

More than 40 per cent of all investments went to particularly young companies less than a year old.

The survey underlines the trend for investment through funds towards the upper end of the scale. The median amount for fund investment per company was £160,000 but for direct investment it was £40,000. Three-quarters of companies finding direct investments raised less then £100,000.

Economic Progress Report 173 November/December: EPR (Distribution), Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU.

Liffe to launch trading in four new contracts

By Michael Prest

The London International Financial Futures Exchange yesterday ended several months of City speculation about which direction it would take by giving details of a new futures contract and three options contracts.

A short-gilts futures contract will be introduced next year to complement the exchange's successful long-gilt futures contract.

At the same time Liffe is laying plans for sterling/dollar option on a physical currency and for options on the Liffe Eurodollar futures contract and on the Liffe long-gilt futures.

Mr Michael Jenkins, Liffe's chief executive, said that firm dates for introducing the contracts will be announced in January. June is a likely starting point and they could begin trading in fairly rapid succession.

The main organizational problem is accomodating options trading. A new clearing system will have to be agreed with the International Commodities Clearing House and new price displays and a new trading area will be necessary.

A survey of Liffe members, Mr Jenkins, said, had shown 90 per cent in favour launching options. The provision for physical delivery in the sterling/dollar option, as opposed to basing the contract on Liffe's existing futures contract, reflected members' wishes, he said.

It is expected by Liffe that the short-gilt, which will be a notional five years, although delivery could be of a gilt of between three and seven years, will be used by the new Stock Exchange primary dealers.

Pilkington seeks £105m

By Cliff Feltham

Pilkington Brothers, the glassmaker, is asking its shareholders for £104.8 million to help cut its borrowings and pay for new ventures, most likely in the United States.

Pilkington is offering one new share for every four already held at 255p. The shares, which have touched 351p this year on takeover talk, fell 7p to 298p

At the same time Pilkington announced a sharp rise in its pretax profits for the six months to September, up from £30.4 million to £52.2 million.

But the group, based in St Helens, is still paying heavily for restructuring and redundancy costs, involving the loss of 500 jobs. Pilkington says a similar number of jobs are likely to disappear during the second half.

Tempus, page 19

Greycoat may bid for Churchbury

Greycoat City Offices today looks set to make a bid for Churchbury Estates, the property company set up by Mr Oliver Marriott. The shares in both companies were temporarily suspended at their request yesterday with both sides in meetings.

The market has long been expecting a takeover bid for Churcbury a situation which Mr Marriott admitted was likely. Churchbury has rationalized the portfolio it acquired with its reverse takeover of Law Land in 1981 but it lacks the experience to undertake more development. It is something which Greycoat can do very well.

A takeover would allow the new company to expand its equity and profit base. Greycoat's interim figures are due today and brokers predict a doubling of pretax profits to £1.45 million with a gross dividend of 1p.

Commercial property, page 21

● Standard Commercial Property Securities, a wholly owned subsidiary of Bass, the brewer, has bought a 4.6 acre site in the Isle of Dogs enterprise zone in London's docklands and is planning a £5 million, 72,000 sq ft industrial and office scheme. There will be four units with offices making up 20 to 30 per cent of the development. The units will be sold to owner occupiers who are eligible for 100 per cent capital allowances in the zone. Phase two will have a 50,000 sq ft office building which will be sold or leased. Grant & Partners is letting the project which is to be developed on the last site in the enterprise zone available for office and industrial use.

● **Lovell Developments and Napier Securities have bought almost an acre of land at Stoke Gardens Business Park in central Slough, from a subsidiary of Owen Owen, the department store group, for £800,000. The developer plans to build three high-technology buildings of 7,500 sq ft each, with the first floor finished to office standards. The joint agents, Richard Ellis and Conrad Ritblat are hoping for rents of £8.50 a sq ft to be achieved once work is complete next August.**

● Brixton Estate, which celebrated its diamond anniversary this week, has completed the first large redevelopment of its Acton Park Industrial Estate in west London, since it was bought by the company in 1963. Brixton has built 50,258 sq ft of industrial and warehouse property and has one unit already under offer. Brixton was able to redevelop the site by getting Lucas CAV, which still occupies a large amount of space on the estate, to surrender one of its leases. Rents for the new space through St Quintin, are from £3.78 a sq ft to £4.50 a sq ft.

● **The Intercontinental Hotels Corporation and Grand Metropolitan have sold the Hotel Lotti in the Rue de Castiglione, Paris for more than £6 million. Jones Lang Wootton acting for the vendor, says that there is a strong demand for luxury hotels in Paris, as in London. The Lotti has been bought by Jolly Hotels, the Italian chain which intends refurbishing the hotel. Mr Robert Waterland, a partner in Jones Lang Wootton's Paris office, says that the boom in the hotel market reflects the competitive rate of the franc against other currencies, particularly the dollar. But, he adds, few of the international hotel operators are able to find the cash to invest in buying more hotels as capital is difficult to find.**

● Sun Alliance's German subsidiary, Securitas-Gilde Lebensversicherung has bought a 20,000 sq ft office and retail investment in the heart of Hamburg for close to DM 18 million (£4.83 million). Sun Alliance bought the property, at Neuer Wall 2-6 Jungfernstieg in the face of strong competition from German institutions. Retail tenants include Gold-Pfeil, whose lease expires at the end of the year, when Sun Alliance expects to see a significant reversion on the rent. Weatherall Green & Smith's Frankfurt office acted for Sun Alliance.

● **FIRST UNION GENERAL INVESTMENT TRUST:** Resuhs for the year to December 31 show net income after tax of R17.7 million or £7.9 million (R17.253 million). Earnings per share were 23.75 cents (21.15 cents) andd net asset value per share was 473 cents (458 cents). A dividend of 12 cents (10 cents) making 19 cents (16.5 cents) is being paid on January 18.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	922.3 (−7.8)
FT-A All Share	572.59 (−2.37)
FT Govt Securities	82.91 (−0.24)
FT-SE 100	1190.7 (−7.9)
Bargains	32.528
Datastream USM	106.4 (+0.7)
New York	
Dow Jones	1177.78 (−0.55)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	11,382.34 (+131.51)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	1117.23 (−1.15)
Amsterdam:	178.4 (+0.1)
Sidney: AO	721.3 (−2.5)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1087.1 (−0.9)
Brussels:	
General	158.31 (−0.11)
Paris: CAC	180.9 (−0.1)
Zurich:	
SKA General	319.30 (−1.1)

GOLD

London fixing:
am $327.60, pm $324.50
close $324.50-$325 (£270.25-270.75)
New York:
Comex $326.10

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Centreway Trust	135 +35
Milford Docks	43 +9
Ass Brit Eng	10½ +1½
Dunton Grp	22½ +2½
Hallwood Grp	104 +11
Coates Bros	140 +13
Blue Arrow	107 +10
Brengreen	57 +4½
MTD (Mangula)	12 +1
Applied Bot	6 +½
Tunstall Tele	330 +25
FALLS:	
Chynne Res	10 −2
Lifecare n/p	7 −1
Sumrie	73 −10
Intrvisn	8 −1
Intrvisn 7 per cent	27 −3
SelecTV	10 −1
Wit Nigel	130 −13
Gerber En	55 −5
Eagle Corp	6 −½
Ass Hotels	3 −¼
Nth Brit Steel	13 −1
Rayback	27 −2
Notts Brick n/p	26 −2
Energy Res	359 −25

CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.1995 (unchanged)
£: DM 3.7015 (−0.0015)
£: SwFr 3.0630 (+0.0040)
£: FFr 11.3505(+0.0073)
£: Yen 295.50 (+0.30)
£ Index: 74.5 (−0.2)

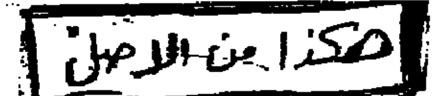
New York:
£: $1.1990
$: DM 3.0857
$ Index: 142.8 (+0.3)

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 9¾–9½%
3-month Interbank 9 13/16–9¾%
3-month eligible bills:
buying rate 9 5/32–9⅛

US:
Prime Rate 11.25–11.50%
Federal Funds 8½%
3-month Treasury Bills 8.20–8.10%
Long bond 101 23/32–101 27/32




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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Market has busiest day since 1981 as BT investors cash in

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Small investors are rushing to cash in their British Telecom shares. Trading in them yesterday was the heaviest yet, giving the stock market its busiest day since April, 1981.

But the selling was comfortably absorbed by institutional investors. The BT price closed just 1p lower at 95½p after touch touching 97½p. They are still offering the army of small investors who splashed out 50p for the partly paid shares a handsome profit.

All successful BT applicants should by now have received their allotment letters. Most arrived on Tuesday.

Since then the flow of selling has steadily increased. The level of stock market activity, as measured by the bargain count, was 50 per cent above the average level running before BT arrived.

Almost all the extra business is down to the most spectcular new issue the stock market has ever witnessed.

Mr Jack Defries, chartist at Greene and Co, the stockbrokers, is not impressed by the behaviour of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries shares ahead of the interim results, due soon. He regards tham as "a possible sale". S & N is expected to produce £36 million against £31.6 million. The shares closed at 130p.

But the BT excitement sapped the strength of the rest of the market yesterday. There was, nevertheless, some intriguing performers. One was **Reed International**.

It is fast becoming a stock market favourite, the shares gaining 20p in the past two days to reach a new peak of 524p. But there is much more to come according to City pundits.

Reed is now – after the sell-off of Mirror Group Newspapers – more an industrial holding company than a publishing group, although business publishing still provides company's biggest single chunk of earnings.

As a result, market men are beginning to think the historic price-earnings rating of 9 is looking a little low. Analysts suggest a rating of 12 or 13 would be more appropriate, and not over demanding.

At that sort of p/e, the share price would break through the 700p level.

A seminar for brokers last Monday helped focus attention on Reed, and the recent bout of takeover activity in he publishing sector has also caused analysts to examine the group closely.

The business magazines operation in the US has been going well, against the healthy background of strong economic growth there. Reed's success in America also appears to have brought US investors into the shares, with London market men hearing of sizable buying from that source.

US buying is in the background of the recent share price rise for **Metal Box**. The shares have risen 12p in the past two days to reach the previous best trading level of 378p.

Metal Box begins pre-market trials of its Petainer soon in the US, and American investors have high hopes for the new product. The Petainer is a can made from PET, a type of plastic.

Takeover talk also surrounds the shares, with some speculators believing that Hanson Trust is building up a stake, with a view to making a bid. Market chat yesterday morning centred on an apparent single large buyer.

Another factor in the support for Metal Box is analysts' charts, which show the shares have broken through an important resistance level.

Turner & Newall slipped 3p to 106p as profit-takers moved in. The shares have been strong recently, pushing to a new high of 109p on Tuesday after a recent meeting between the company and City analysts.

The industrial materials and engineering group has shown good recovery performance throughout this year, and are expected to do the same in 1985. Laing & Cruickshank the stockbroker, says profits for this year should reach £24-£25 million, against £20.3 million in 1983, and about £33 million next time.

Management Agency and Music, the showbusiness group which has branched into hotels and amusement machines, rose 7p to 154p, making a 12p two-day gain. **Chrystalis**, the privately-owned entertainments business, has built up a 5 per cent shareholding. **Queens Moat Houses**, the hotel group, has a 10.1 per cent stake.

About 750,000 shares in Saatchi & Saatchi, the seventh largest advertising agency in the world, were placed through the market yesterday by Phillips & Drew, stockbroker to the company. Part of the £6.75 million worth of stock came from holders who acquired shares during the recent acquisition of Hay Group. Saatchi shares slipped 10p as the stock came through, but by the close were just 5p down at 905p.

Comfort Hotels International held at 87p as latest bidders, Ladbroke Group, acquired another 100,000 shares lifting its shareholding to 1.3 per cent. Rival bidders Intasun, with a 14.9 per cent shareholding, held at 113p.

Shares of **Cecil Gee**, the men's retailer which came to the USM 18 months ago, shot up 20p to close at a new high of 185p on news of a possible bid approach.

The company took the unusual step of announcing a possible offer price at 160p. Market rumours that Habitat Mothercare might be the predator were scotched by Habitat.

Cecil Gee's first half profits to mid-July showed a 63 per cent rise to £332,000 and an extraordinary profit of £570,000 on the sale of the 14.5 per cent stake in James Walker, Goldsmith and Silversmith.

At the close the FT 30 share index was registering a 7.8 points fall at 922.3 points. The FT-SE, share index fell 7.9 points at 1,190.7 points.

Both indices finished at their lowest levels of the day with the market still disconcerted by Tuesday's money supply figures. Away from Telecom trading was thin although there was the occasional pocket of activity, often prompted by profit figures.

Both **Beecham Group** and **Glaxo Group** were unsettled by worries about National Health Service cuts. Beecham fell 13p to 368p and Glaxo eased 10p to £10.85.

Government stocks were friendless, down by up to £½.

Share prices on the chemicals pitches are looking lively, with a variety of rumours doing the rounds. **Coates Brothers** provided most of yesterday's excitement, with a 13p rise to another new high of 140p after the group was written up in a City newsletter. Stockbrokers also visited Coates a week ago, since which time buying support for the shares has been strong.

BOC Group rose another 3p to 258p, as the shares steadily recover ground lost ahead of last week's annual results.

Brengreen (Holdings), the industrial cleaning company headed by Mr David Evans, jumped 4½ to 57½ as rivals Hawley Group disclosed a 14.9 per cent shareholding.

Still on the cleaning pitch **Initial** rose another 5p to 500p. Rumours persist that **British Electric Traction** will sell its 40.7 per cent shareholding as a springboard for a bid.

Johnson Matthey dipped 3p to 75p following the success of the rescue package. **Charter Consolidated** rose 3p to 186p on profits better than many had feared.

But **H.P. Bulmer**, the cider maker, tumbled 10p to 164p on a 22 per cent interim profits setback, a much weaker performances than anticipated.

Share prices among stores companies were pennies lower as profit-taking began following the recent strong run for the sector.

Takeover speculation continues to surround Burmah Oil. The shares climbed a further 5p to 223p yesterday as the market contemplated suggestions that a Woolworth-style consortium bid is about to be launched. The rumoured price is 260p a share.

Recent retail sales figures and City hopes for a record selling season this Christmas had boosted prices, but yesterday there were losses of 1p to 5p among well-known names such as **MFI, British Home Stores, Etam and Marks and Spencer.**

Dixons, recent victor in its bid for **Currys Group**, fell 10p to 475p, and **Boots** slipped 9p to 189p after yesterday's excitement about the high chain's opening of its 100th Cookshop store-within-a-store.

Baggeridge Brick advanced 14p to 216p on its 90 per cent profits growth. **Stakis**, the leisure group, improved 4p to 143p on its 58 per cent profits gain. And **Northern Foods** rose 6p to 212p on better than expected results. However **Tate and Lyle**, the sugar group which failed to win the **Brooke Bond** food group and is now spending £36 million on American expansion, eased a few coppers to 443p after its figures.

TEMPUS

Spending spree for Pilkington

Five years after asking shareholders to put up £60 million, Pilkington the glassmaker from St Helens is back again, this time for £104 million.

Leaving aside the opportunistic timing of the cash call, interest centres on what Pilkington intends to do with the money. Half-year profits show a marked upturn with the British side continuing its recovery, and after British Telecom the stock market is ready to absorb an issue of this size, the fourth largest this year.

Pilkington is recognized as a conservative company, and its expressed desire to reduce its borrowings seems straightforward, although it is out of focus with market sentiment which does not view the existing debt position in too bad a light.

It also speaks of acquisition possibilities in the United States where it has invested "10 million dollars so far – smaller than we had hoped for" in expanding its electro-optical business. This seems the most likely route for its cash.

It insists it has no present plans to raise its 30 per cent stake in Libbey-Owens-Ford, the second largest glassmaker in the US. It could go for broke but this would probably swallow up the proceeds of the rights issue twice over.

Meanwhile, latest figures reflect better trading in Britain – although more redundancy costs are still in the pipeline – but the full impact of the setback in South Africa has probably still to be felt.

The impression remains that Pilkington is still struggling to find its way with shareholders being asked to pay the fare to get there. A lot of uncertainty overhangs the shares.

Northern Foods

Northern Foods has suffered its first fall in profits since 1974. However, the downturn had been anticipated and interim pretax profits of £27 million, down just £900,000, were, if anything, better than expected and the shares added another 6p to close at 212p.

The main problems came from the liquid milk activities where the 1p increase on a pint arrived three months later than expected. With margins squeezed and volumes falling, profits were bound to decline.

Deregulation of milk pricing from January 1 should allow the group to keep prices closer aligned to costs in future.

The group still has a very firm foundation in the shape of two dey customers. Marks and Spencer in the United Kingdom and the McDonalds hamburger chain in the US.

The halt in profits growth is temporary and the group should make about £57 million in the full year. While short-term prospects for the shares and the group are far from exciting, on a longer-term view it is a much more attractive proposition.

Tate & Lyle

No powers of divination are needed to see from Tate & Lyle's figures why the company was so interested in Brooke Bond. While group pretax profits are 21 per cent higher at £69.2 million, the contribution from the core sugar business slipped £400,000 to £44.8 million.

Although sugar production and refining are profitable in terms of return on capital, they are not generating the earnings growth which Tate needs.

Overall growth in 1983/4 came from net interest income almost doubling to £21.1 million and from several of the group's smaller activities. Cereal sweeteners and starches turned in £5 million, compared with a £4 million loss.

Molasses trading contributed £11.9 million, up from £7.1 million and it is significant that the group has just spent $43.2 million buying the Agri-Products Division of Beatrice.

The emphasis here on tighter value added is one source of growth. An upturn in the Canadian economy helped the activities to treble its contribution to £6.6 million.

With net cash of £28 million Tate can take the strain. A return on capital of 20 per cent generates funds to pursue the present policy of modest and complementary acquisitions.

The full year's dividend of 19p net, an increase of 19 per cent, puts the shares on a 6 per cent yield at last night's price of 443p.

Fears that next year's tax changes could be £40 million, against £23.3 million depressed the share price. Against that the five new acquisitions should add £25 million a year to earnings soon. What the market is still awaiting, however, is a substitute for Brooke Bond.

City office lettings show signs of revival

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

Brixton Estate, which celebrated its diamond jubilee on Tuesday, has let 55,000 sq ft of its 85,000 sq ft office building in Finsbury Square on the edge of the City to Marine Midland Bank for about £19 a sq ft.

The American bank is taking space in the refurbished building which Brixton bought from the Legal & General Assurance Society for £8.5 million.

The former Argent House was put on the market by L & G for £11 million but the Assurance company eventually sld at the lower figure.

Brixton has spent an undisclosed amount on bringing the building up to modern requirements. The company hopes to obtain £20 a sq ft for the remaining space.

Elsewhere in the City, closer to the Bank of England, there are signs of a revival in the office market for the baking sector. Wates City of London Properties which came to the stockmarket in September is about to let its 10,575 sq ft development at 10, Philpot Lane to John Poland & Co, a Lloyds managing agent. Wates has spent £2 million on rebuilding the offices and values the scheme at £4.65 million once completed and let. The asking rent through St Quintin and Montague Evans is £30 a sq ft.

A similar level of rent was asked but probably not achieved on Cornhill House, a project developed by the Airways Pension Fund and the Worshipful Company of Grocers at 68/69 Cornhill. The Girosentrale Bank of Vienna is taking the space in the £4.5 million refurbished accomodation.

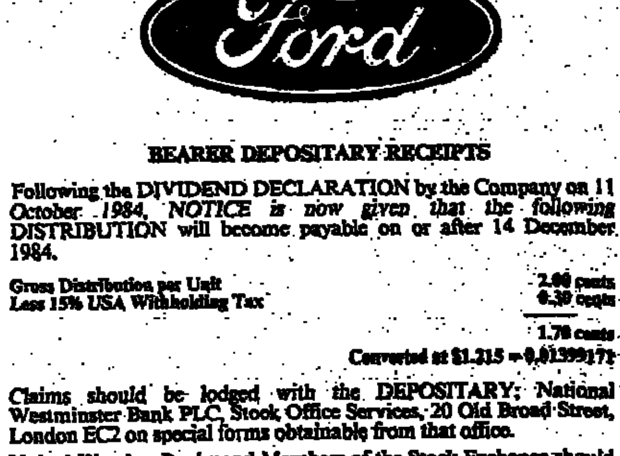
And the European Banking Corporation's 20,000 sq ft of space in 150 Leadenhall Street is under offer, all signs of the upturn in the upturn in the letting market in the core of the City.

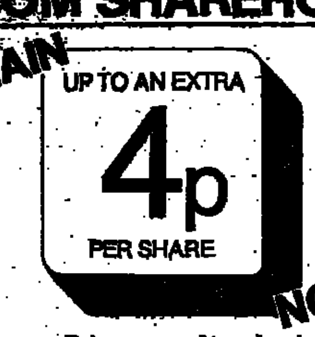
Base Lending Rates

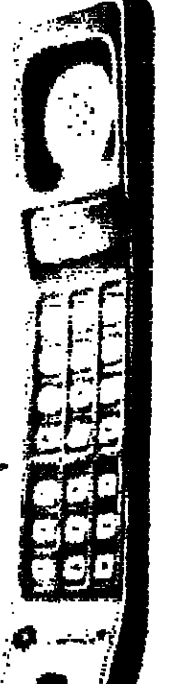
ABN Bank	9½%
Adam & Company	9½%
Barclays	9¾%
BCCI	9½%
Citibank Savings †	10¾%
Consolidated Crds	9¾%
Continental Trust	9½%
C. Hoare & Co *	9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster	9½%
TSB	9½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%
Citibank NA	9½%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¾% £10,000 up to £50,000, 7¼% £50,000 and over, 8%.







WALL STREET

	Dec 11	Dec 10
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

CANADIAN PRICES

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Dow makes early gain

New York (AP-Dow-Jones) - Wall Street shares held a slim gain in early trading yesterday, with the Dow Jones industrial average up 1.44 points at 1179.77.

Advancing issues were about 595-to-555 ahead of declining issues in moderate trading.

Mr Robert Kimtis of William D. Witter Inc said: "The market continues to look unimpressive because of the uncertainties and confusion over the Treasury's tax proposals. It has no direction at the moment.

"We believe that with the Federal Reserve continuing the tendency toward lower interest rates in order to keep the economy reasonably on track the stock market has a greater probability of rising from here."

General Motors was unchanged at 74⅝; General Electric was unchanged at 55; International Business Machines fell ⅛ to 119; Exxon fell ⅛ to 44; Texas Instruments was unchanged at 113¾; Teledyne was down 1½ to 257½; Minnesota Mining rose ⅛ to 78½ and Merck rose ¼ to 89½.

Union Carbide at 35½ was up ¼; Northwest Industries at 49⅛ was up ⅞; National Gypsum at 36¼ was up 1⅛; Central Soya at 17 was up ⅛; Phillips Petroleum at 51⅜ was up 1⅛; Norfolk Southern at 55¾ was up ⅝; US Gypsum at 56⅜ was down ⅛ and Phillips-Van Heusen at 27½ was up 1⅜.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

G W Joynson and Co report

SUGAR	
Mar	131.8-31.6
May	138.8-38.6
Aug	149.6-49.2
Oct	156.6-49.2
Dec	163.6-62.6
Mar	178.2-77.0
May	185.0-83.4
Vol: 1525	

COCOA	
Dec	1878-77
Mar	1846-45
May	1845-44
Jly	1849-48
Sep	1852-48
Dec	1895-00
Mar	1810-95
Vol: 94/1733	

COFFEE	
Jan	2238-2235
Mar	2229-2228
May	2219-2215

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co Ltd report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	1110.00-1111.00
Three months	1123.50-1124.00
T/O: 12,225	

STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	1120.00-1123.00
Three months	1131.00-1134.00
T/O: Nil	
Tone: Idle	

TIN STANDARD	
Cash	9850-9860
Three months	9820-9825
T/O: 285	

SILVER LARGE	
Cash	565.5-566.5
Three months	579.0-581.0
T/O: 73	
Tone: Easier	

SILVER SMALL	
Cash	565.5-566.5
Three months	579.0-581.0
T/O: Nil	
Tone: Idle	

ALUMINIUM	
Cash	937.00-938.00
Three months	958.50-959.00
T/O: 5,450	
Tone: Easier	

NICKEL	
Cash	4095-4095
Three months	4090-4095
T/O: 408	
Tone: Barely steady	

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

England and Wales:
Cattle nos. down 9.9 per cent, ave. price 104.03p (+6.70).
Sheep nos. up 1.2 per cent, ave. price 189.10p (+4.00).
Pig nos. up 9.8 per cent, ave. price 87.53p (+1.23).

Scotland:
Cattle nos. down 11.9 per cent, ave. price 101.89p (+6.04).
Sheep nos. down 0.4 per cent, ave. price 179.58p (+2.94).

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
Jan	£109.70	£110.00
Mar	£113.35	£113.15
May	£116.90	

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Quiet conditions were reported from all sectors of the market. Interbank money opened on 9½-n⅞ per cent and it was not until midday that it eased slightly to 9⅜-¼ per cent.

The next downward move came around mid-afternoon, with a dip to 8½-7½ per cent, and the last half hour saw a slide to 6-2 per cent for the close.

Routine trading in Interbank term deposits seldom disturbed rates from their overnight positions. Longer dated sterling certificates of deposit tended to be lightly offered in early trading, reflecting a degree of unease over the money supply figures, but no great volume developed.

Local authorities rarely ventured forth in any size.

Eurodollar deposits took their cue from marginally easier rates in New York. The market stayed subdued, dealers said.

Base Rates %
Clearing Banks 9½-9¾
Finance House 10½

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight: High 9¾ Low 5
Week fixed: 9¾

Treasury Bills (Discount %)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	9[illegible]	2 months	9¼
3 months	9⅛	3 months	9[illegible]

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %) [illegible]

Trade Bills (Discount %) [illegible]

Interbank (%) [illegible]

Local Authority Deposits (%)

2 days	9¼	7 days	9¼
1 month	9½	3 months	9⅝
6 months	9[illegible]	12 months	9[illegible]

Local Authority Bonds (%)

1 month	10½-9¾	2 months	10-9¾
3 months	10½-9¾	6 months	10-9¾
9 months	10¼-10	12 months	10¼-10

Sterling CDs (%) [illegible]

Dollar CDs (%)

1 month	8.90-8.80	3 months	9.00-8.90
6 months	9.40-9.30	12 months	10.10-9.90

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS %

[illegible]

GOLD

[illegible]
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$334-335.50 (£278-279.50)
Sovereigns* (new):
$76.50-77.50 (£63.50-64.50)
*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period 8 November, 1984 to 4 December, 1984, inclusive: 9.904 per cent.

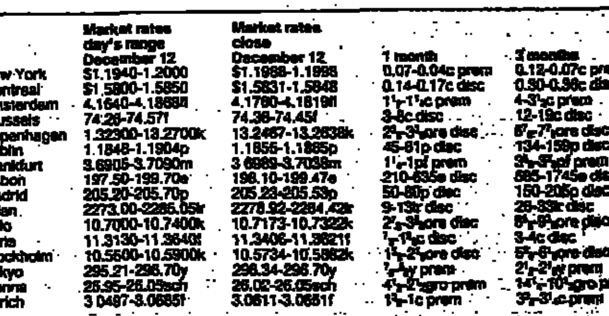
FOREIGN EXCHANGES

In conditions which some dealers described as a virtual standstill, the dollar and pound moved little on foreign exchange markets. Both ended the day close to overnight levels, having traded within short ranges.

The dollar fluctuated between Dm3.0835 and Dm3.0940 against the Mark and closed down 20 points at Dm3.0880.

Sterling in the meantime was dealt within an even narrower range, from $1.1935 to $1.2000, against the US currency, and closed unchanged at $1.1995.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES



	Market rates day's range December 12	Market rates close December 12	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.1940-1.2000	$1.1988-1.1998	0.07-0.04c prem	0.12-0.07c prem
Montreal	$1.5800-1.5850	$1.5831-1.5848	0.14-0.17c disc	0.30-0.36c disc
Amsterdam	4.1640-4.1868fl	4.1780-4.1819fl	1½-1¼c prem	4-3½c prem
Brussels	74.26-74.57f	74.36-74.45f	3-8c disc	12-19c disc
Copenhagen	13.2300-13.2700k	13.2467-13.2638k	2⅞-3⅛ore disc	6⅞-7⅞ore disc
Dublin	1.1848-1.1904p	1.1855-1.1865p	45-61p disc	134-158p disc
Frankfurt	3.6905-3.7090m	3.6989-3.7038m	1¼-1pf prem	3⅞-3⅝pf prem
Lisbon	197.50-199.70e	198.10-199.47e	210-635e disc	685-1745e disc
Madrid	205.20-205.70p	205.23-205.53p	50-80p disc	150-205p disc
Milan	2273.00-2285.05lr	2278.92-2284.42lr	9-13lr disc	26-33lr disc
Oslo	10.7000-10.7400k	10.7173-10.7322k	2⅞-3⅜ore disc	8⅛-8⅞ore disc
Paris	11.3130-11.3640f	11.3406-11.3821f	⅞-1⅜c disc	3-4c disc
Stockholm	10.5600-10.5900k	10.5734-10.5882k	1⅝-2⅝ore disc	5⅞-6⅜ore disc
Tokyo	295.21-296.70y	296.34-296.70y	⅞-⅝y prem	2⅛-2⅝y prem
Vienna	25.95-26.05sch	26.02-26.05sch	4¼-2⅞gro prem	14¼-10⅝gro prem
Zurich	3.0487-3.0685f	3.0611-3.0651f	1⅜-1c prem	3⅞-3½c prem

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down 0.2 at 74.5 (day's range 74.5-74.3).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso*	187.29-188.80
Australia dollar	1.4143-1.4173
Bahrain dinar	0.4495-0.4535
Brazil cruzeiro*	3537.05-3558.00
Cyprus pound	0.7525-0.7625
Finland marka	7.6740-7.7140
Greece Drachma	151-158
Hong Kong dollar	9.3854-9.3945
India rupee	14.53-14.73
Iraq dinar	n.a.
Kuwait dinar (KD)	0.3615-0.3655
Malaysia dollar	2.8919-2.8962
Mexico peso	225-250
New Zealand dollar	2.4635-2.4707
Saudi Arabia riyal	4.2435-4.2855
Singapore dollar	2.5995-2.5635
South Africa rand	2.2173-2.2134
United Arab Emirates dirham	4.38-4.42

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.0100-1.0115
Singapore	2.1690-2.1705
Malaysia	2.4130-2.4145
Australia	0.8464-0.8474
Canada	1.3205-1.3210
Sweden	8.8175-8.8275
Norway	8.9375-8.9475
Denmark	11.04-11.06
West Germany	3.4860-3.4880
Switzerland	2.5530-2.5550
Netherlands	3.4860-3.4880
France	9.4625-9.4725
Japan	247.05-248.20
Italy	1900.00-1902
Belgium(Comm)	62.04-62.09
Hong Kong	7.8310-7.8320
Portugal	165.167
Spain	171.45-171.55
Austria	21.69-21.70

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel. *Lloyds Bank International.

APPOINTMENTS

J Sainsbury: Mr James Prior, MP, joins the board as a non-executive director on January 1.

Imperial Continental Gas: Mr Alan Parish becomes a non-executive director on December 31.

Multitone: Mr Andrew Biancardi has been appointed director of Multitone Communications International/Multitone Communication Systems.

United Transport International: Mr Michael Fetherston-Dilke has been made a non-executive director.

Argus Press Group: Mr George Fowkes has joined the boards of Communication Channels Inc.m (Atlanta, Georgia), EW Communications Inc. (Palo Alto, California) and Argus Press Holdings Inc.

Mr James Prior: joining Sainsbury's board

Hammerson Canada Inc.: Mr E. Bruce Heyland has been appointed to the board effective from January 1.

TI Machine Tools: Mr John R. Wareing has been made managing director.

Davy McKee Environmental: Mr Neil Cherrett has become managing director.

Rudolf Wolff Group: Mr Francis Holford has been appointed deputy chairman and Mr Bruce Leeming as managing director.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
650		Do 'A'	795	..	49.3	6.2	11.8
89		Bestra	110	● +½	5.1	4.6	29.3
90		Eng Assoc	96	+3	4.3	4.5	13.6
363		Exco	528	..	11.6	2.2	20.0
53		Exploration	63	..	4.5	7.1	10.3
9		First Charlotte	10½	..	0.1	0.7	95.5
78		Frost (JJ & D)	80	..	4.0	5.0	11.8
42		Goode (D & M)	44	..	1.8	4.1	7.3
357		Henderson Admin	505	● +5	15.7	3.1	10.7
590		M & G	683	..	31.4	4.6	16.8
215		Martin (RP)	390	-20	17.9	4.6	8.8
247		Mercantile House	274	-5	17.1	6.3	7.0
255		Mills & Allen	330	..	20.0	6.1	18.2
70		Smith Brothers	104	-1	7.1	6.9	4.5
175		Yule Catto	200	..	7.9	3.9	9.1

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

1983-84 High	Low	Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

COMPANY NEWS

● PLATON INTL: Half-year to Sept 30. Intm. div. 0.93p, as envisaged in the prospectus. Figs in £000: T/over 1,453 (1,506 -2). Pretax pft. 181.4 (160.1). Tax 55.8 (47). Extraord dbt. nil (3.1). EPS 4.1p (3.61p). The order book has grown substantially, the board reports, with some large orders for bespoke products which will augment the standard output in the second half, to provide the main part of the year's turnover. The sales outlook is for continued growth, with significant supplements for new electronic products in both flow and pressure measurement.

● JACKSONS BOURNE END: Intm. div. 2p (1p adj) for 28 weeks to Oct 13. Figs in £000. T/over: Manufacturing 2,511 (2,670). Rental income 116 (116). Trdg. profit 284 (210). Pretax pft. 229 (168), after reorg. costs 90 (40), but incl. interest rec. 35 (pble. 2).

● BURNS-ANDERSON: Year to Sept. 30. Div. 1.72p (1.5p), mkg. 2.42p (2.2p). The board intends increasing the interim payable next Aug. to not less than 12 of the total. Figs. in £000. T/over 28,031 (30,050). Pretax pft. 668 (561). Tax 143 (120). Minorities 3 (nil). EPS 4.4p (3.8p). The board is confident of further pft. growth in the current year.

Stakis is lifting its total dividend for the year to Sept 30 from 2p to 3p a share. Figs in £000. T over 134,581 (99,830). Pretax profit 10,161 (6,462), after interest and asset-leasing 1,208 (1,290) and allocation to share schemes 423 (269). Tax 2,259 (866). Group property assets were valued at Oct 2, 1983, by independent professional valuers at £85 million - a surplus of £37 million over book value.

● PORTER CHADBURN will acquire Swift International and Swift Diving Supplies (Scotland). Consideration for the acquisition will be £725,000, plus an additional sum payable, should profits before tax for 1985 exceed £170,000, up to a max. of £150,000 achieved on profits of £220,000. The initial consideration will be satisfied by the issue of unsecured debenture notes, 1990/95, at par with interest at 2 per cent under Lloyds Bank Base Rate.

● JAMES LATHAM: Half-year to Sept. 30. Intm. div, 5p. Figs. in £000. T/over 18,096 (16,702). Pretax pft. 1,036 (907). Tax 150 (136). EPS 33.6p (29p).

● DERITEND STAMPING: Intm. div. 2.2p (same) for half-year to Aug. 31. Figs. in £000. T/over 17,678 (16,155). Tdg. pft. 623 (860). Pretax pft. 427 (623), after int. payable 196 (237). Tax 130 (113). EPS 5.63 (9.67p). Prospects for the second half are more encouraging, the board reports. Demand has increased at companies which were slack during the first half and both overseas offshoots have orders that should ensure a contribution to profits in 1985.

● SCAPA GROUP has agreed to purchase 77.5 per cent of Ets. Bricq, situated near to Angouleme in France, for £1.5 million. Bricq manufactures engineered fabrics for the paper and board industries and is a leading French producer of domestic blankets and textile wall coverings. Scapa has also agreed in principle to acquire from its equal partner the remaining 50 per cent share that it does not already own in Semperit-Kern, the group's new roll-covering plant in Austria for £1 million. Semperit-Kern has been in production for less than 12 months. Its order book is already strong and on present progress it will shortly be trading profitably.

● TUNSTALL TELECOM: Year to Sept 30 Div 0.79p, mkg. 1.40p - increase of 25 per cent. Although a final div. of 0.28p was paid in respect of 1982-83, it was stated at the time of the flotation in the USM that divs totalling 1.12p would have been paid had the shares been held publicly throughout the year. Figs in £000. T/over 13,080 (6,889). Pretax pft 3,048 (1,389). Tax 1,025 (458). EPS 14.4p (6.9p).

● BENJAMIN PRIEST: Announces the disposal of its offshoot, S Taylor and Co general presswork manufacturers, for £220,000. Priest has assumed responsibility for S Taylor's outstanding overdraft liability of £175,000. Taylor's net assets at March 30 were £565,000, against which a provision was made in the accounts of Priest on that date sufficient to cover the loss of sale. S Taylor made a pretax loss for 1983-84 of £244,000 after taking account of interest and management charges of £125,000. This completes the divestment programme which was set out in the shareholders' circular of Sept 20, containing the refinancing proposals.

● HELICAL BAR: Half-year to July 28. Figs in £000: T/over 3,574 (3,476). Operation loss 112 (164). Pretax loss 10 (165), after interest payable 33 (36). No tax. Loss per share, 0.3p (5.7p).

● UKO INTERNATIONAL: Intm. Div. 1.5p (nil) for half-year to Sept 30. Figs. in £000. Sales 29,747 (28,441). PFT, before tax, 1,347 (1,195), made up of ophthalmic division, 632 (587) and catering equipment division, 715 (608). Tax 240 (150).

● BIRMINGHAM MINT: Half-year to Sept 30. Intm. Div. 3.5p (3p). In the light of the improved outlook, the directors intend, subject to unforeseen circumstances, to recommend a final div. of 8p net on the share capital as enlarged by the rights share, matching 11.5p, an increase of 9.5 per cent over the previous year. Figs. in £000. T/over. 9,824 (5,263). Pretax pft. 413 (38). Birmingham Mint proposes an underwritten rights issue of 612,739 new ord. at 175p each, to raise about £1m net, on the basis of three new ord. for every ten held.

● NSS NEWSAGENTS: Div. 2.1p (1.9p), mkg. 3.3p (3p) for year to Sept 30. Figs. in £000. T/over 153,532 (145,584) Pretax profit 5,807 (5,567).

● WEST'S GROUP INTERNATIONAL: Half-year to Sept 30. Intm. Div. 2.5p (same). Figs. in £000. T/over 22,389 (27,256). Operating profit 254 (947). Pretax pft. 185 (858), after interest payable, 69 (89). Tax 62 (259). Extraord. item 191 dbt. (70 cdt.). EPS 1.5p (7.6p).

● CHARLES BAYNES: Year to Sept. 30. Dividend, 2.25p (annualized equiv. of 1.083p for previous nine months). Figs. £000. T/over 5,663 (1,558). Pretax pft. 558 (230). The board intends to continue the policy of expanding the textile rental and industrial cleaning division to build up a national coverage and establish the Baynes Group as a big force in these activities. This policy of expansion will be largely through the acquisition mainly of private businesses and board is actively looking at a number of suitable ones.

The first two months of the current year are already showing the benefits of both the acquisition policy and the investment in those businesses. Profits are substantially ahead and, with turnover running at an annualized £14 million, the board views the current year with confidence.

● A-R TELEVISION (subsidiary of BET): Six months to Sept 30. No ord. div. (5.0p). Turnover £31,140 (£35,820). Other operating income £32,375 (£24,094). Interest received from holding company £1.24 million (£1.35 million). Pretax loss £379,943 (profit £1.07 million).

Associated Paper Industries, which makes the gold foil used to package brands of cigarettes, perfumes and whisky, pushed up pretax profits by 55 per cent in the year to September 29 to £3.9 million. Sales rose 26 per cent to just over £47 million, with exports up by 50 per cent to £9.7 million. The stamping foils side performed strongly, accounting for £1.3 million of trading profits, against £715,000 a year ago. Papermaking still remains the main activity, contributing £3 million, against £2.5 million, despite problems caused by having to absorb raw material price rises during the year. The group's newest business, air conditioning and filtration, chipped in £423,000. The dividend payout goes up from 4.2p a share to 5p.

● DURA MILL is to raise £240,000 (228,000 net of expenses) by way of a rights issue of 480,000 new ord. shares of 2.5p each at a price of 50p per share on the basis of one new ord. share for every five now held. The issue is being underwritten by Corporate Financial Services, Dura's ultimate holding company, without charge.

● ARMITAGE AND RHODES: Half-year to Sept 30. Div. 1.0p (nil). Figs. in £000. Sales 4,469 (4,514). Trading profit (loss) before tax 65 (9). The summer months, traditionally difficult, were made worse this year by the miners' strike, continuing high levels of unemployment and economic uncertainties. Despite this, the momentum of the profitable operations continues.

● PLAXTONS (GB): Year to Sept. 30. Div. 3p (3p restated), making 4.5p (4.5p, restated). Figs. in £000. Turnover 31,325 (32,597). Trading profit 1,589 (2,555). Pretax profit 1,980 (2,917).

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Access Satellite Int 5p Ord (150a)	184-2
Addison Comm 2p Ord (116a)	193
Alida Holdings 25p Ord (140a)	185
Appledore A & P 10p Ord (87)	80
Breakmate 10p Ord (100a)	119+3
Brit Bloodstock Ag 25p Ord (165a)	208
CVD Inc Com Stock $0.01 (105a)	140
Checkpoint Europe 25p Ord (a)	223+5
Craton Lodge & Knight 1p Ord (115a)	186
Gablecl 5p Ord (78a)	86
Hawtal Whiting 5p Ord (197a)	250
Instem 10p Ord (145a)	200
Klark-Teknik 5p Ord (85a)	118
Media Technology 20p Ord (117a)	178+1
Oldacre Hldgs 20p Ord	108
PSM Int 25p (140)	158+1
Plasmec 10p Ord (70a)	74
Second Market Inv 5p Ord (10)	11
Shares Drug Stores 10p Ord (140a)	192
Stone International 20p Ord (125)	148
T & S Stores 5p Ord (a)	118
U D O Holdings 10p Ord (110a)	124
Wardle Storeys 10p (132)	168-5
Wates City of Lon Prop 25p Ord (100)	118

Issue price in parentheses. a Unlisted Securities. * by tender.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Time for investors to diversify

By Judith Huntley

Rising yields do not bode well for portfolios heavily weighted in the industrial sector

Institutional money is leaving property and yields are rising. At last a streak of sanity is returning to the property world as fund managers see other forms of investment showing better returns.

For the first time in recent history average yields on industrial property have reached the same level as the return on gilts. This trend, which looks set to continue for some time, has far reaching implications, particularly for those property companies with portfolios heavily invested in the industrial sector.

The office sector too, with a few exceptions in the City of London, has not been turning in such a good performance. Average yields are at their highest for seven years with the South-east, the Midlands and the North of England showing the sharpest rises. Even in the hotspot of the market – the retail property – average yields have remained flat, falling only in a few isolated cases.

It is not just average yields that are going up. Prime yields are also rising as the lack of rental growth over the last few years is reflected in the market-place. The weight of institutional investment in property has been keeping the market from sinking. Some would argue that institutions have pushed yields to the point where they were too low to be justifiable on rental growth performance.

The Hillier Parker and *Investors' Chronicle* research for November shows that the average yield for all property rose to 7 per cent – an increase of 0.25 per cent on the August level. Offices and industrial property accounted for this situation, while shops merely remained unchanged. Prime yields also went up to 5.1 per cent, from 4.8 per cent six months ago.

Capital values fell for all property by 2.8 per cent over the period. Industrial property saw capital values plummet by 8 per cent, with the retail sector holding up best on a rise of 5.2 per cent.

Hillier Parker says that investors are still concentrating on the retail sector – a trend confirmed by Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks' latest report on institutional investment. But the rise in average yields highlights the fact that investors are still, quite rightly, doubtful about property's performance. One reason put forward by Hillier Parker is the rapid growth in equity dividends which are forecast to outstrip rental growth for some time to come.

Debenham Tewson argues that we are now entering a new phase, with the emphasis switching to rationalizing institutional portfolios, a phrase which has become only too familiar as property sales by pension funds and insurance companies come to light. During 1983, net investment in commercial property fell by 25 per cent to £1.5 billion.

ANNUAL INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT IN PROPERTY
Source: Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks

£ million at 1970 prices
500
400
300
200
100
0
1970 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83
PENSION FUNDS
INSURANCE COMPANIES
PROPERTY UNIT TRUSTS
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

On the other hand, sales have become an important source of funds to institutions, rising from 17 per cent in 1981 to 60 per cent last year, relative to new investment. Cash-flow to the institutions, last year rose by 7 per cent, but investment patterns showed a shift to Government securities and liquid assets.

With rents static, yields rising and institutional money going into alternative forms of investment, it does not bode well for the asset value of property companies whose portfolios are weighted towards the industrial or the office sector outside the City and parts of London. Unless these companies shift their portfolio weighting, or venture into other kinds of development, they may find there is a downward valuation in the portfolio – or that existing valuations are far too high.

The letting market shows no sign of any real improvement, other than for a few kinds of high-quality property. Office and industrial hybrids in certain parts of the South-east are in demand and companies with these in their portfolios will see some rental growth, but elsewhere the lack of demand is revealing only too well how marginal property can become.

The level of inflation can no longer hide deficiencies in property and the impact of depreciation and obsolescence are painfully clear. The message to investors must be to diversify a portfolio weighted too heavily in one direction and to come to grips with managing assets before they become liabilities.

Ludgate Hill bomb site plans in ruins

● **It is back to square one in the Square Mile. The City's politicians have overthrown the advice of their planners and architects on the brief for one of the last remaining City bomb sites still undeveloped. The site, at Ludgate Hill, has attracted much interest from developers. But they have had to wait until the City Corporation decided what kind of development it would allow. The whole of the site can be developed for offices and the recommendation that the scale of new buildings be kept to that of the existing ones, has been overruled. The corporation wants to see high-quality offices at Ludgate Hill and is removing some of the restrictions it feels will deter developers from coming up with the right kind of scheme.**

● The Arab Banking Corporation is talking to Commercial Union Asssurance about buying No 1 Moorgate in the City, but neither side would confirm that a deal has been struck. The office building has belonged to Commercial Union for some time and was formerly occupied by it. New office space is being provided behind the facade of the existing building.

● **Six firms of chartered surveyors have banded together to sponsor a new property investment data bank. Chestertons, Cluttons, Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks, Drivers Jonas, Savills and Weatherall Green & Smith have commissioned the consultants Roger Tym & Partners to process information from institutional portfolios**

Court of Appeal Law Report December 13 1984 Court of Appeal

When leave is necessary for appeal from official referee

Giles Electrical Engineers Ltd v Plessey Communications Systems Ltd

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Lloyd

[Judgment delivered December 5]

The circumstances in which leave was required to appeal from a decision of an official referee was governed by the same principles which applied to appeals from a High Court judge.

The Court of Appeal so stated in refusing the defendant leave to appeal from an interlocutory decision of Judge Hawser, QC, sitting as official referee.

Mr Frederick Philpott for the defendant; Mr Richard Fernyhough for the plaintiff.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that a problem had arisen concerning appeals from an interlocutory decision of an official referee. Clearly any right of appeal from an official referee was limited by Order 58, rule 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The problem arose because of the decision in *Technistudy Ltd v Kelland* ([1976] 1 WLR 1042) where it was held that leave to appeal from an official referee was not required on a point of law even if the order sought to be appealed from was interlocutory in nature.

When *Technistudy* was decided section 31 of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act 1925 was in force and section 31(1)(i) of that Act provided that no appeal should lie without the leave of the judge or the Court of Appeal from any interlocutory order. The reason for the decision in the *Technistudy* case was that an official referee was not a "judge" within the meaning of section 31(1)(i).

In 1977 the Rules of the Supreme Court were amended (SI 1977 No 532) and section 31 of the 1925 Act applied as if an official referee were a judge of the High Court. The effect of the amendment meant that *Technistudy* was no longer applicable.

Any doubt about that was dispelled by section 18(1)(h) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 (which replaced section 31 of the 1925 Act) which did not confine the subject matter of that subsection to a judge but extended it to a "court or tribunal". Whatever was said about an official referee he clearly came within the meaning of a "court or tribunal".

Leave to appeal was required in exactly the same circumstances as that which applied to a judge of the High Court. The present case was clearly an interlocutory matter and it was conceded that leave to appeal was required.

If leave to appeal would not be required from a High Court judge, it would not be required from an official referee.

Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Herbert Oppenheimer, Nathan & Vandyk; Masons.

Amateurs in science on the bench

Dawson v Lunn

Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice McCullough

[Judgment delivered November 30]

Where it was necessary for a court to determine whether alcohol consumed after ceasing to drive or be in charge of a vehicle had caused the amount of alcohol in the motorist's body to exceed the prescribed limit it would always be necessary for the motorist to call expert medical or scientific evidence in order to discharge the burden of proof which lay on him, unless the non-expert evidence called was such as to enable the court reliably and confidently to reach a sensible conclusion without expert evidence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated allowing an appeal by the prosecutor, Mr Herbert Dawson, from a decision of Colchester Justices to dismiss an information laid against Mr Derek Lunn, alleging that he had driven with excess alcohol in his body, on the basis that the defendant had satisfied them that alcohol taken after he had ceased to drive had taken him over the limit.

Mr Andrew Collins for the prosecutor; Mr John Boothby for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the justices had reached their decision after considering and drawing conclusions from an extract from the *British Medical Journal* which had been handed to them by the defendant, the prosecutor not having objected, without any expert witnesses being called.

The case vividly illustrated the danger of justices, or judges for that matter, dabbling as amateurs in science without the assistance of qualified witnesses.

While there were no doubt some cases where the weight of the non-expert evidence called by the defendant was such that justices could conclude, confidently and reliably that he had discharged the burden of proof, there were many cases where they could not sensibly draw that conclusion themselves.

The dictum of Lord Widgery in *Pugsley v Hunter* ([1973] RTR 284,290), which concerned the "laced drinks" defence, was equally applicable to such a case as this where the facts were not obvious from the non-expert evidence.

Mr Justice McCullough agreed.

Solicitors: Sharpe Pritchard & Co for Mr J. J. Goodwin, Chelmsford; Aughterson, Keeble & Passmore, Colchester.

Maximum term is limit

Regina v Michel

Where a fine with a substantial term of imprisonment in default was imposed, in the absence of proof of means to pay, on a defendant who had also been given the maximum sentence of imprisonment for the offence, the fine was quashed, as the effect of the term of imprisonment in default would be to carry the total period of imprisonment well above the permissible maximum.

While there was, in principle, nothing wrong in fining a defendant at the same time as making a criminal bankruptcy order, there would be relatively few cases in which it would be right to do so. The criminal bankruptcy order gave the victim of a fraud a potential remedy, and might, in fact, deprive the defendant of the means to pay a fine.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Purchas, Mr Justice Jupp and Mr Justice Bingham) so held on November 30, when considering appeals against sentences imposed at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Sutcliffe, QC) for conspiring to contravene the provisions of section 38(1) of the Finance Act 1972, and being knowingly concerned in taking steps with a view to the fraudulent evasion of value-added tax.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that although the maximum term of imprisonment for the offences was wholly inadequate in view of the massive criminality involved, the effect of adding sentences in default of payment to the maximum terms was indefensible.

The making of a criminal bankruptcy order gave injured parties a comprehensive and far-reaching means of obtaining satisfaction and it was inappropriate in the present case to impose fines alongside a criminal bankruptcy order for over £14 million specifying the Customs and Excise as the injured party.

Fiat is not required for a charge

Regina v Elliott

Before Lord Justice Stephen Brown, Mr Justice Hodgson and Mr Justice Glidewell

[Judgment delivered December 4]

Section 63 (1) of the Administration of Justice Act 1982, which provided that "Proceedings for a crime under the [Explosive Substances Act 1883] shall not be instituted except by or with the consent of the Attorney General", should be interpreted as meaning that such proceedings were instituted when a person came to court to answer the charge. Accordingly, when a person was charged with offences under the 1883 Act in April 1983, but the Attorney General's fiat was not given until June, the proceedings were not thereby rendered null and void.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing the appeal of Trevor Elliott against his conviction on November 23, 1983 at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court (Judge Beaumont) of offences contrary to sections 2 and 3 of the Explosive Substances Act 1883. He pleaded guilty to one count of making explosives, and was sentenced to a total of three years' youth custody.

Mr John T. Milford assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr R. P. Lowden for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN said that it was submitted for the appellant, on the authority of *R v Brentwood Justices, Ex parte Jones* ([1979] RTR 155), that the commencement or institution of proceedings occurred when a person was charged, and that since the appellant had been charged before the Attorney General gave his consent, thereafter all the proceedings must have been a nullity.

A very different set of circumstances was under consideration in that case and that was a decision of the Divisional Court not the Court of Appeal.

In the present situation it was important also to have regard to the provisions of section 6(2) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1979 which, counsel for the Crown submitted, plainly envisaged that the absence of the consent of the Attorney General should not prevent an arrest or charge.

There was no direct authority upon that matter, and their Lordships concluded that section 63 of the Administration of Justice Act 1982 should be interpreted as meaning that proceedings were instituted at the time when a person attended the court to answer the charge. To hold otherwise would be to ignore the provisions of section 6 of the 1979 Act.

Solicitors: Director of Public Prosecutions.

CRICKET: KAPIL DEV LEADS TEST FIGHTBACK AS INDIAN BATSMEN FALTER

Spinners' guile puts England in command

From Richard Streeton, Delhi

England made a magnificent start to the second Test match here yesterday when accurate spin bowling by Pocock and Edmonds caused India's main batsmen to falter. Compensation for England's loss of the toss came in the capture of six Indian wickets by teatime. In the final period of play, though, India staged a recovery through Kapil Dev and Kirmani and the score was 208 for six by the close.

More than one Indian batsman was guilty of an indiscreet stroke, but nothing should detract from the persistent skill shown by the two England spinners, who were superbly supported in the field. Both Pocock and Edmonds were able to keep a posse of close fieldsmen within three yards of the bat as they bowled with masterly precision and guile. The much debated pitch has not yet deteriorated and the two English bowlers wore down the Indian batsmen with flight as much as anything else. There is no doubt, though, that the ball will turn later in the match.

Cowans, in his first two spells, and Ellison helped contain the Indians, too, and if the batting was sometimes gritty, the cricket was never less than absorbing. Sadly the pessimism beforehand about the attendance proved only too correct. There were barely 5,000 people watching the game, with several factors, including the new popularity of one-day cricket and the memory, perhaps, of tedious past Test matches here, sharing some of the responsibility. Once again, though, the match was televised locally all day and this is something that the Indian board have got to change if they wish to retain the big match atmosphere on these occasions.

Kapil Dev and Kirmani, who came together just before tea with India 140 for six, have been in 95 minutes so far and added 68 runs which could prove crucial in the game's later stages. Both men survived hard chances and had moments of good fortune, but the great depth of batting in this Indian side was again underlined. A decision by England to take the new ball as soon as it became available in the closing session failed to bring them the breakthrough they sought. The first hour today will be important if England are to retain their hopes of winning this match and level the series. Another setback for England after tea was an injured wrist for Robinson in the field. An X-ray examination disclosed no fracture but his arm is badly bruised.

England decided against bringing in Marks and kept the same side which played in the first Test. India changed Kapil Dev's new-ball partner by giving a first cap to Prabhakar, primarily a swing bowler, and dropping Chetan Sharma, whose pace did not trouble England at Bombay. Any elation Gavaskar felt at ending a lengthy sequence of failures with the toss must have been tempered with annoyance at his own dismissal. In the second over, he edged Ellison's third ball, which left him late, and was caught behind as he pushed forward.

Vengsarkar never looked at ease against Cowans. In the fast bowler's third over, Vengsarkar ducked into a ball that did not lift as much as he expected and was struck on the helmet. A long delay followed while the covering which protects the temple and left ear was replaced. Shortly afterwards Vengsarkar made a hash of an intended hook against Cowans and Cowdrey, running back over his shoulder, narrowly failed to take what would have been a brilliant catch at deep square leg. The game was little more than an hour old when both England spinners were first in action.

There were early rewards too, for both of them. In Pocock's second over, Gaekwad gave him the charge, missed, and the ball went off a boot for four leg byes. He learned no lesson and next ball again went forward, this time to drive, and was bowled. Five minutes before lunch, Vengsarkar misjudged Edmond's flight as he tried to drive, the ball bounced higher than most and Downton stumped him.

Pocock bowled with splendid control and his close fieldsmen, a silly point, two short legs and a short mid on, were never endangered. India passed 100 in the 45th over.

Patil straight-drove Edmonds for a cracking four, but he was then out to an appalling stroke. He thrust his left leg down the wicket, aimed a dreadful-looking pull-cum-sweep and skied the ball high into the air. Pocock at midwicket had a long time to wait ad almost misjudged the catch but finally held it as he sagged to the ground. The fourth wicket had added 61 in 27 overs.

Ten minutes later, Shastri played a similarly ill-chosen stroke against Pocock. He tried to pull a ball on the off stump and dragged it to midwicket, where Fowler took a skimming catch with calm judgement. On the stroke of tea, Amarnath was out when he pushed forward at Pocock and Gower took a bat-pad catch at silly point. At tea Pocock's figures were 18-3-39-3, a remarkable performance.

Kapil Dev had begun with several daring sweeps and he was 15 and the total 149 when Pocock valiantly risked injury as he attempted a fierce return catch.

Half an hour after tea England took the new ball as soon as it was due in the 75th over, with the Indian total 168 for six, Kirmani had to fend off one awkward ball from Cowans and the batsman was fortunate it landed safely, another short ball from Cowans was hooked for six by Kirmani. After nine overs with the new ball had cost 37 runs, Edmonds was brought back, but England were unable to separate the pair.

INDIA: First innings

*S M Gavaskar c Downton b Ellison	1
A D Gaekwad b Pocock	28
D B Vengsarkar st Downton b Edmonds	24
M B Amarnath c Gower b Pocock	42
S M Patil c Pocock b Edmonds	30
R J Shastri c Fowler b Pocock	2
Kapil Dev not out	60
†S M Kirmani not out	16
Extras (l-b 5)	5
Total (6 wkts)	208

M Prabhakar, S N Yadav and L Sivaramakrishnan to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-56, 3-68, 4-129, 5-131, 6-140.

BOWLING: Cowans 15-3-58-0, Ellison 15-4-30-1, Edmonds 31-9-57-2, Pocock 24-4-53-3, Gatting 2-0-5-0.

ENGLAND: G Fowler, R T Robinson, M W Gatting, A J Lamb, *D I Gower, C S Cowdrey, †P R Downton, P H Edmonds, R M Ellison, P I Pocock, N G Cowans.



Taking flight: David Gower leaps to avoid the danger of Kapil Dev in full flow

NZ openers give a brilliant display

Karachi (AFP) – New Zealand were poised to take a first-innings lead over Pakistan at close of play on the third day of the third and final Test at the National Stadium here yesterday.

At stumps the tourists were 316 for four in reply to Pakistan's first-innings total of 328 all out.

The highlights of the day's play were brilliant performances by Wright and Reid, the left-handed batsmen, who raised the possibility of a surprise win for New Zealand to salvage the tour after their in the first two Test matches and Pakistan's 3-1 victory in the one-day series.

John Wright, who was unbeaten with 81 overnight, reached his fourth Test century, and John Reid was unlucky to be caught when he was only three runs short of his hundred. At the close Jeff Crowe was 39 not out and Coney, the captain, on 8.

After New Zealand resumed at the overnight score of 99 for one, Wright soon completed his century, first against Pakistan, before getting out just before lunch for 107. A ball from Iqbal Qasim, the leg spinner, took a sharp turn and went into the gloves of Anil Dalpat after snicking the edge of Wright's bat.

The New Zealand opener stayed at the crease for 235 minutes and struck 17 boundaries and a magnificent six. His second wicket partnership with Reid has produced 80 valuable runs, but the stand between Reid and Martin Crowe for the third was even more fruitful, addding 95 before Crowe was given out leg-before by Shakoor Rana, the umpire, for 45 in the last over before tea.

Crowe was dissatisfied with the decision and stayed at the crease for a while. Television showed a slow-motion replay several times and experts who were consulted gave the view that the benefit of the doubt should have been given to the batsman rather then the bowler.

PAKISTAN: First innings 328

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

J G Wright c Anil Dalpat b Iqbal Qasim	107
B A Edgar run out	15
J F Reid c Iqbal Qasim b Azeem Hafeez	97
M D Crowe lbw b Wasim Raja	45
J J Crowe not out	39
J V Coney not out	8
Extras	5
Total (for 4 wkts)	316

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-83, 2-163, 3-258, 4-292.

BOWLING: Azeem Hafeez 30-6-85-1, Mudassar Nazar 14.4-3-45-0, Iqbal Qasim 34-8-85-1, Wasim Raja 26-6-73-1, Zaheer Abbas 5.2-1-13-0.

Keith Andrew, the former Northamptonshire and England wicket-keeper, has decided not to secceed Ken Turner, as the secretary of Northamptonshire.

HOCKEY

Pakistan machine is too fast and clever for Britain

From Sydney Friskin
Karachi

Pakistan	4
Great Britain	1

Pakistan reserved their best display in the Champions Trophy Tournament for the match against Great Britain here yesterday, probably because they had a point to prove. Britain had held them to a goalless draw to finish at the top of the table before going on to win the bronze medal at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The atmosphere was right for Pakistan. They had a host of supporters whose ecstatic acclaim spurred their forwards to greater endeavour. The three men on the inside, Manzoor, Hussain, Hassan Sardar and Hanif Khan, were too fleet of foot and clever with their sticks.

For the first 10 minutes Britain looked a little more venturesome, though less inventive. Kerly once hurled himself at a centre from Bhaura but just failed to make contact. Them another shot by Kerly, from a back pass by Potter, went astray.

The Pakistan machine began to work more smoothly and in the fifteenth minute an attack, initiated by Kaleemullah on the right, brought them their first goal. After Taylor had saved from Hassan Sardar, Manzoor Hussain scooped the ball into the net.

Pakistan made nothing of the only short corner in the first half, but six minutes before halftime the stickwork and acceleration of their forwards took play once again into the British circle where, after a succession of shots which rebounded, Kaleemullah finally found the mark.

Britain, coming into the second half with renewed vigour, forced a short-corner from which a stinging shot by Cattrall was well saved by the goalkeeper. There followed a slight adjustment in Britain's attack with Shaw giving way to Clift and Kerly moving from centre forward to inside right.

The Pakistani defence showed signs of panic and conceded a short corner in the fifteenth minute of this period. This gave way to a penalty stroke after Cattrall's shot was stopped on the line by a defender's foot and Potter, who seldom misses, scored from the spot to bring Britain back in to the game.

But there was little the British defence could do to stop the Pakistani onslaught and two superb centres by Kaleemullah on the right led to the third and fourth goals by Hanif Khan, both scored with tremendous power and precision.

All that Britian can hope for now is to beat the Netherlands to win the bronze medal. The Dutch, who defeated Spain 4-0 yesterday, need only a draw.

PAKISTAN: Shahid Ali Khan, Tauqir Dar, Nasir Ali, Rashidul Hassan, Ayaz Mahmood, Naeem Akhtar, Kaleemullah, Manzoor Hussain, Hassan Sardar, Hanif Khan, Mahmood Hussain (sub: Khalid Hamid).

GREAT BRITAIN: I Taylor, R Cattrall, S Martin, J Potter, D Faulkner, W McConnell, K Bhaura (sub: R Clift), R Leman, S Kerly, N Hughes, J Shaw (sub: M Lewis).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Pakistan	4	3	1	0	14	5	7
Australia	4	3	1	0	10	6	7
Netherlands	4	2	1	1	8	5	5
Great Britain	4	2	0	2	10	10	4
New Zealand	4	0	1	3	5	12	1
Spain	4	0	0	4	4	12	0

BASKETBALL

Favourites face struggle

By Nicholas Harling

The two clubs who go into the second legs of tonight's Kellogg's Cup semi-finals holding narrow advantages know the hardest struggle will be to assert their authority over the opposition for not the second time this season, but the third.

That is the task facing both Kingcraft Kingston, who receive Cottrills Manchester Giants holding a one-point lead, and Vikings who visit John Carr Doncaster in Sheffield two points to the good. Both Kingston and Vikings have also won league games against their cup opponents.

Doncaster, who followed up last week's two-point defeat with a six-point loss to Vikings in the first division on Saturday, led at half-time in each game. "After that we just seemed to lose a little something in intensity and composure", Stevens said. Doncaster replace one English guard, Tony Brown, who has a slight ankle strain with another, Mike Davis. Colin Irish, who has strained ankle ligaments which caused him to miss Saturday's fixture, is Vikings' only doubt.

Steve Bontrager, Kingston's American player-coach whose team have now defeated Manchester twice by a single point, is fretting on the fitness of his compatriot, Dan Davis, who is having treatment twice a day on an injured knee.

More sport, pages 24, 25, 26

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities weaken again

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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2	Brammer	
3	Burgess	
4	Concentric	
5	Blundell-Perm	
6	Brengreen	
7	Arenson	
8	Bridport-Gundry	
9	Brook St Bureau	
10	BOC	
	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
11	Harris (Philip)	
12	Hopkinsons	
13	Kershaw (A)	
14	Evered	
15	Initial	
16	Kelsey Ind	
17	Flexello C & W	
18	Hall (M)	
19	Gieves	
20	Jacksons Bourne	
	ELECTRICALS	
21	Emess Lighting	
22	Phicom	
23	LEC Refrigeration	
24	Energy Serv	
25	Eurotherm	
26	Telefusion	
27	Rotaflex	
28	Chloride	
29	Electronic Mach	
30	AB Elect	
	DRAPERY & STORES	
31	Habitat Mothercare	
32	Elys (Wimbledon)	
33	Dewhurst (IJ)	
34	Jones (Ernest)	
35	Bremner	
36	Goldberg 'A'	
37	Harris Queensway	
38	Burton	
39	Home Charm	
40	Ladies Pride	

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FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

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OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

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BREWERIES

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BANKS DISCOUNT HP

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ELECTRICALS

[illegible]

FINANCE AND LAND

[illegible]

FOODS

[illegible]

HOTELS AND CATERERS

[illegible]

INDUSTRIALS A-D

[illegible]

E-K

[illegible]

L-R

[illegible]

S-Z

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

LEISURE

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MINING

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MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

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[illegible]

RUGBY UNION: PONTYPOOL LOSE FIRST GAME OF SEASON IN SLUGGING CONTEST

Australians are affected by boot philosophy of the valleys

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Pontypool	18
Australians	24

After Saturday at Murrayfield and Tuesday at Twickenham, Wednesday at Pontypool Park brought us back to the real world. Metaphors concerning dustcarts floated through the mind yesterday, a trifle unkindly, because this was never going to be a clasic of rugby as the grand game and the University match were.

This was a slugging contest, the game of the big boot, which is how much of British rugby is identified. At least the Australians won it with a try to take the match by two goals and four penalty goals to a goal and four penalties, and sent Pontypool to the first defeat they have suffered this season.

Entertainment there was none, unless you enjoy the sight of kickers trying for goal once every five minutes. But it was a considerable achievement by what was largely the Australians' second team to win and to do playing – as near as they could – the Welsh club's game. Pontypool's tight midfield defence on a misty, muddy day was never going to let the Australian array of switches function, so the touring side moved Black and Lane around at stand-off half, dependent upon where they were on the field, and a rain of high kicks descended on Lewis.

When Pontypool tried the same tactic they seldom embarrassed Gould, though the Australians must have been grateful for his solid presence. Indeed, the only area where the visitors were severely discomforted was the set scrummage: they lost Holt with a damaged left arm in the first half and Lillicrap at the start of the second with a leg injury. Burrow, the replacement prop was hard pressed against Staff Jones, who had the redoubtable Perkins scrummaging behind him.

It was hardly surprising that one of the biggest cheers of the day came when Pontypool shunted the opposing pack back ten metres and then, at the subsequent scrum, received a penalty when the Australian front row collapsed. That, if you like, is Pontypool's "move", and the only thing that went wrong with it was that Lewis failed to kick the penalty.

Whether you regard it as rugby is another matter; it is the antithesis of what the Australians (and Cambridge University) have been showing us. Curiously, within the first five minutes both sides had tries on the board from identical build-ups. Goldsworthy pushed a long penalty down to the Australian line, Pontypool received a scrum and though Squire was held, Perkins surged over.

The reply came from Gould, whose kick created a similar position at the other end; Campbell tapped the ball down at the lineout and Rodriguez squirmed over the line. The ability of Campbell, Tuynman and later Reynolds to win lineout balls brought considerable relief to the Australians, but there was so little sustained play that one almost welcomed the mist which veiled the proceedings.

After the opening tries there were never more than three points between the sides (until the dying moments) as Lewis's boot vied with those of Black and Gould for supremacy. Matters were even at half time at 15-15, and both touch judges decided they should not be denied their share of the action, drawing Colin High's attention three times to some skulduggery. It was hard to see what all the penalties were for, though many of my Welsh neighbours knew exactly what was happening 50 metres away.

The game was won in the last five minutes of proper time. Campbell won a lineout, Black put a high kick, and a solid wall of Australian jerseys swamped Lewis under his posts; Grigg obtaining the touchdown.

SCORERS: Pontypool: Try: Perkins. Conversion: Lewis. Penalties: Lewis (4). Australians: Tries: Rodriguez, Grigg. Conversions: Black (2); Penalties: Black (4).

PONTYPOOL: P Lewis; G Davies, L Faulkner, L Jones, B Taylor; M Goldsworthy, D Bishop; Staff Jones, Steve Jones, G Price, M Brown, J Perkins, E Butler (captain), C Huish, J Squire.

AUSTRALIANS: R Gould, P Grigg, J Black, R Hanley, I Williams; T Lane, N Farr-Jones; C Lillicrap, (rep, G Burrow), M McBain, E Rodriguez, W Calcraft (capt), N Holt, (rep, R Reynolds), W Campbell, D Codey, S Tuynman.
Referee: C High (England).

● The first of Oxford University's penalty goals in yesterday's report of the University match should have been attributed to Pearson, rather than MacNeill.



Staff Jones: under pressure in the scrum

Hampshire have the edge for'ard

By Peter Marson

Royal Navy	8
Hampshire	15

Hampshire apparently regard their successes against the Royal Navy as being deserving of a special mention in dispatches. The victory on Portsmouth's ground yesterday is unlikely to have been one of the most memorable though, but with the county's eight establishing a slight edge, Hampshire deserved their win by three ties and a penalty goal to two tries.

Unfortunately both sides had been obliged to make late changes, and it might have been that a certain lack of co-ordination, which came to afflict the Navy one moment, and Hampshire the next, could be traced to this redeployment of forces. But, in the absence of polish, any amount of movement up and down the field and from touchline to touchline, coupled to some vigorous exchanges forwrd, provided ample compensation on a cold, raw day, the result of an enjoyable contest always remained in the balance.

A glut of five tries helped keep us warm in the first half, and even suggested a bonanza in points, though had that materialised one would have expedted the place kickers to have played a part.

Yet, on a windless afternoon the game had all but run its course before a deliberate, carefully taken penalty kick for goal by Fly, an emerging Harlequin and Hampshire full back, found the target from 25 metres and made victory certain.

The experienced Burden and Durkin, scrum halves both, played excellently, and it was Burden, darting to the short side of a five-metre scrummage who engineered Hampshire's first try by Moorfoot. Good work by Hampshire's forwards then led to brace of tries by Moody, and in a spirited counter-attack Hampton and Hughes scored tries for the Navy.

SCORERS: Royal Navy: tries: Hampton, Hughes. Hampshire: tries: Moorfoot, Moody (2). penalty goal: Fly.

Hampshire: A G Fly, (Harlequins); G Keens (Eastleigh), T Pike (Winchester), I Graham (Portsmouth), S M kearns (London Irish); K G Taylor (Winchester), J C Burden (US Portsmouth); S Hoskins (Portsmouth), D Porter (Kettering), R Nicholson (Trojans), S F Morgan (Havant), C J Martin (Havant), A Owen (Eastleigh), D Moody (Havant), (rep: C Mantell, Rosslyn Park), captain, R J Moorfoot (Portsmouth Polytechnic).

ROYAL NAVY: Marine S Lawrence (Royal Marines, Poole); Mtl D Kay (HMS Raleigh), Lt. R Allen (BRNC), Sub-Lt. G Alcock (RNAS Culdrose) captain, Leading Writer S Hampton (MCM 2); Marine D Whittington (40 Commando), Sub-Lt. M Durkin (HMS Heron); Sgt. J Martin (42 Commando), A.B. R Joy (HMS Repulse), Corp. I Bevin (HMS Poole), Sgt. N Holloway (M.G.M. RM), Corp. G Cuthel. (42 Commando), Leading Seaman S Thomas (40 Commando), A.E.M. G Wood (HMS daedalus, Lt. S Hughes (Derby Carreers Officer).
Referee: M Coley (London society).

RFU ban is a farce says French

By Keith Macklin

Ray French, the former Rugby Union and Rugby League international, now a St Helens schoolteacher and BBC television Rugby League commentator, yesterday described as "ludicrous, unworkable and a farce" his partial reinstatement as a Lancashire schoolboy coach by the Rugby Football Union. French, who had received no letter or communication by yesterday from the RFU, has sought legal advice and intends to go to the next meeting of the Lancashire Schools Rugby Union committee on January 15 despite the RFU's refusal to reinstate him on the committee.

As a schoolteacher who includes Rugby Union coaching on his curriculum, and qualifications, French believes he has legal grounds for stating that even a partial ban constitutes a restraint of trade in the practice of his profession.

French was recently informed by telephone, with no written confirmation or explanation, that the Lancashire RFU had decided that he could no longer coach county schoolboy teams, or sit on the schools committee. The decision caused a furore, and French said yesterday that he had received letters of support from "major clubs, national coaches and people throughout the game".

He believes that his introduction of Rugby League at Cowley School, St Helens, plus his BBC job and other involvements in the 13-a-side game, prompted the apparently arbitrary decision by Lancashire.

Yesterday the RFU apologised to French over the manner of his sacking.

A statement was issued that he is entitled to coach Cowley boys in Rugby Union during the course of his paid profession. Although French is not to be reinstated on the schools committee without further examination of his amateur credentials, he can still coach, organize, help, select or assist with Lancashire schools rugby.

French told me yesterday: "The whole thing is ludicrous and a farce, and I have received no official confirmation of the RFU statement. How on earth can I coach, organize or act as a selector with Lancashire schoolboy teams if I cannot sit on the committee which organizes and selects? It is a ludicrous anomaly, and I intend to take my place at the next meeting of the Lancashire Schools committee on January 15."

He added that the consequences arising from the decisions regarding himself "could be disastrous and far-reaching for Northern schools rugby". In addition to French, many former Rugby League players, some of them internationals, have rugby coaching among their qualifications. They include another international at both codes, Keith Fielding at Bramhall in Cheshire, a Welsh international at both codes, John Bevan, at Arnold School, Blackpool, Clive Griffiths, Martin Regan, and Alan McInnes.

In French's view, the most laughable anomaly of all is the fact that John Knighton, a former Rugby League player with Salford and St Helens, sits on the Lancashire schools committee as Manchester representative.

BOXING: CLARKE TO ASK TO SEE BBC CONTRACT

Board ban on block bookings as contract row grows

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Block bookings of dates and halls by promoters are to be stopped by the British Boxing Board of Control, Ray Clarke the board secretary said yesterday. The decision comes just two days after the admission by the BBC to *The Times* that they had a contract with Mike Barrett and Mickey Duff, the London promoters, for the coverage of their shows which are mainly held at the Albert Hall and Wembley.

The new rule will be a severe blow to the promoters who have the Albert Hall booked until the end of 1985 and, more important, could also release the BBC from their contract and enable them to buy boxing contests on the open market outside the Duff-Barrett orbit.

It has been widely held in boxing circles for many years that the contract between the BBC and Duff and Barrett existed, otherwise every show at those venues would not have been shown, regardless of their quality. But, like King Solomon's Mines, no one had seen it. That is why the BBC admission is all the more welcome. "We are going to ask the BBC and Duff and Barrett for a copy of the contract", Mr Clark said. "We have often asked to see the contract but the BBC always say there is no contract, only a gentleman's agreement."

The document appears to have *infringed* the board's regulation 20A, which states: "Unless prior consent of the board is obtained, no licence holder shall negotiate in connection with or arrange for or take part in the televising, broadcasting or screening by film or other means (whether in whole or in part) in the United Kingdom of a boxing contest in any part of the world, or negotiate in connection with, or arrange for or take part in any such contest which is to be so televised, broadcast or screened. All applications in paragraph one must be made to the board in writing."

The board may also examine the contracts of the other big London promotor, Frank Warren, who has an arrangement with independent television companies. The board move should, however, help smaller promoters, such as Eddie Thomas, of Merthyr Tydfil, Charlie Atkinson, of Liverpool, Burt McCarthy, of London, and others up and down the country, who are not in the Barratt-Duff camp, to get a fair slice of the BBC cake, something for which they have been fighting for years.

Thomas has often tried to interest the BBC with good contests, but to little avail. One BBC refusal even cost him a home match for Colin Jones, of Gorseinon. Jones had to go to Copenhagen to box Hans Henrik Palm, of Denmark, for the European title. Also, Burt McCarthy's brilliant young middleweight, Errol Christie, has not been seen in action by BBC viewers.

Particularly poignant is Charlie Atkinson's story of how the BBC turned down a British middleweight championship bout between Roy Gumbs, of Tottenham, and Eddie Burke, of Scotland. "It was a good fight", Atkinson says. "England v Scotland and both were good punchers. I even told the BBC, 'Give me a date and I'll run for you'. But I got nowhere. Only 800 people were at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow to see the bout. I didn't take enough money to pay for the supporting bouts.

"It was a cracking good fight and Ray Clarke sympathized with me. Harry Gibbs, the ref said, 'It's a bad night, Charlie. Next time I'll do the fight free for you'." There was no next time. He was out of the 'big time'.

The end of block bookings does not mean days will be going begging at the Albert Hall. The dates may not be available, and in any case, applicants would have to be vetted.

● JOHANNESBURG: The dethroned heavyweight boxing campion, Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa fought with an injured thumb when he lost to American challenger Greg Page in an over-long round a week ago, his manager said yesterday (Reuter reports). "His thumb was injected before the fight by the boxing board doctor. It could well have affected his performance". Hal Tucker said.

Meeting to check allegations of cartel

Mike Barrett, Mickey Duff, Jarvis Astaire and Terry Lawless will all be called to a special meeting of the British Boxing Board of control early in the New Year.

The Board considered Sunday newspaper stories about the quartet yesterday and afterwards released the following statement: "Following the disclosure of a contract between the four leading licence holders, a copy of which has been forwarded to the board by the licence holders in question, the Board has decided to request them to appear before a special meeting of the Board, to be arranged early in the New Year, when the whole matter will be investigated.

Earlier, Barrett refuted allegations by Charlie Magri, the former world flyweight champion, that he had been paid "peanuts" during his career. Barrett said he had made payments of more then £190,000 over the last five years to Magri for fighting on his promotions.

He said he paid Magri £25,000 for his world title winning fight against Eleoncio Mercedes at Wembley Arena in March 1983, and then paid him £75,000 for his unsuccessful defence against Frankl Cedeno at the same venue the following September. "Both shows lost money – the first £3,387 and the second £13,479", Barrett said.

"I have always respected the confidentiality of boxers' purses and will continue to do so. But whenever a boxer makes a public complaint that he is only getting 'peanuts', then I shall discover the true facts and let the public decide for themselves."

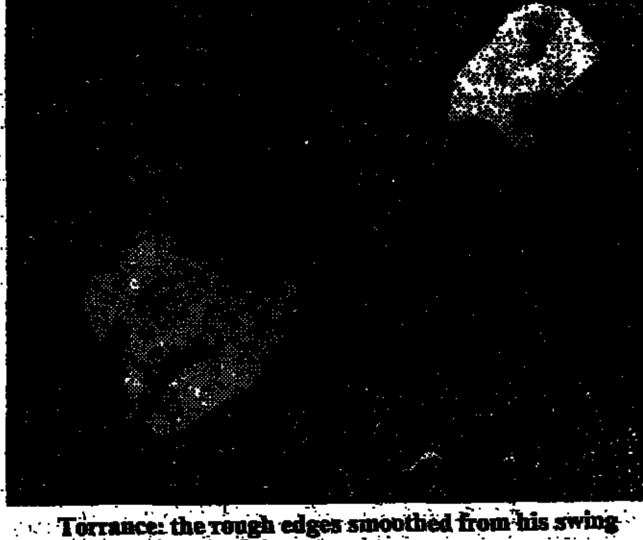
Barrett confirmed that Sylvester Mittee received only £1,000 for his unsuccessful tilt at the British light-welter-weight champion, Clinton McKenzie, in March, 1981.

He added: "McKenzie was making a voluntary defence and Mittee had lost a final elimator the previous year. He had no official standing in the light-welterweight ranks and welcomed the chance of a crack at the title. Despite all that, the show still lost £6,400."

Torrance gets the call from Uncle Sam

Scottish master invited to Augusta

Sam Torrance's reward for his finest season in Europe is his first invitation, after 14 years as a professional, to the United States Masters at Augusta next April. Consequently, he might change his schedule for 1985. "It's the best Christmas present I could have received and I'm trying not to get too excited", he said.



Torrance: the rough edges smoothed from his swing

Torrance has demonstrated the truth in the adage that there is no substitute for experience. This season he won three European tour events (Tunisian Open, Benson and Hedges International and Sanyo Open); and he was second to Langer in the Order of Merit; there were official winnings of £112,657 and, including his world-wide earnings, an income of more than £200,000.

So the raw youngster of the Seventies had matured into an established star of the Eighties. He always had an abundance of talent. He had been well educated in the art of shot-making. The exposed Ayrshire coast, where he has lived all his life, provided the perfect honing ground.

The trick for Torrance, from the moment he became an assistant at Sunningdale at the age of 16, was not so much how to manufacture shots as how to manipulate his talent to achieve the optimum results. His mission, which required patience and strength of character, was to shed certain distracting *habits* and sift an avalanche of advice heaped upon his braw Scottish shoulders.

"Experience is the greatest asset to a golfer," Torrance explained. "You must learn to adapt to conditions, learn to stay in control. Now, when in contention, I'm usually pretty good. I know how to apply myself to what is necessary to succeed.

"It's taken time; and a lot of hard work. There was a lot of advice but, in the end, you use only about a tenth of it. If you used it all you would run the risk of being dominated by other individuals' thoughts and opinions."

One man, however, is responsible for Torrance's evolvement. His father, Robert, the professional at Largs for more than 25 years, eroded the rough edges from Sam's swing and erased the mental chinks in his armour. He commanded his son to examine critically his swing on the practice range at every opportunity rather than live in a fantasy world on the course with classroom chums.

There was a natural resentment, no different from that of a youngster compelled by his father to sit at a piano while his friends played kick-and-rush outside, and there were arguments. "I've worked Sam hard", Torrance sen said. "But it's a fact that you get nothing from nothing in this world."

Even now it is the Gary Player philosophy that the harder you work, the luckier you get, which fans this very special father-and-son relationship. Torrance is back home, relaxing from the rigours of touring, but the local recreation ground remains a daily meeting point for a reassuring session on his swing.

Torrance, too, has mellowed his outlook to life. His feet are firmly on the ground. "It's not a question of someone convincing you how good you are", he said. "I still don't know how good I am. It's something I don't think you ever know. I don't even want to think about it. I just want to play golf and let it happen."

Nick Faldo has qualified for the Augusta event and Bernhard Langer, the leader of the Order of Merit in 1984, is likely to receive an invitation along with Sandy Lyle.

He sees no future in letting it happen as a regular member of the American circuit. "I just don't want to do that," he said. "I'm not scared of it. You see, I would need to uproot everything and live there to do it right. And I'm very happy with my life now. I have a great wife and we have a great home and a lovely relationship. I don't want to change everything by living there.

"It might – just might – be different if I was exempt. If I could organize a specific programme. But I have no intention of going to the tour school to win my player's card.

"What the invitation to the Masters has done is to provide me with the incentive to work hard, so after the New Year celebrations it will be straight out with the clubs for a series of sessions with my father at Largs.

"What I would like, if it is possible, is a couple of invitations to other US circuit events so that I can acclimatize for Augusta. The Masters is a fabulous event, and I want to make a good impression."

What about his other goals in 1985 – the British Open, for instance? "I'm getting closer," he said. "And I like Royal St George's, where the Open is next year. I was fifth there in 1981. And this year at St Andrews I was ninth despite dropping shots at each of the first four in the first round and five shots in the last four of the second round.

"Of course, the Open is something completely different to win. Unlike the Americans, it's really the only 'major' we play in. But I'm not saying that I haven't had enough experience. If I came to the 18th on the last day needing a par to win, I would feel unbelievable. I would pull out my driver and just give it a rip".

Mitchell Platts

SHOW JUMPING

Skelton mounts triple challenge

By Jenny MacArthur

Nick Skelton, in the enviable position of having three top Grand Prix horses to choose from, is poised to make a formidable attack on this year's Olympia international show jumping championships, which *begin this evening at Olympia with* a gala performance in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The show, which with its festive spirit and family atmosphere is a favourite with most of the riders, is sponsored by Cognac Courvoisier, Modern Alarms and Radio Rentals.

Riders will be competing for £63,700 of prize money during the five days of the show The two main show jumping classes are the Volvo World Cup qualifying round on Saturday afternoon and Monday evenings £1£2,950 Grand Prix, sponsored for the last time by Radio Rentals.

Last year Skelton won both classes on St James. The 14-year-old gelding, who helped Skelton to a record-breaking 10 wins at Wembley in October, remains Skelton's top horse, but in Apollo and Everest Radius he has two enviable second strings. Both are very much on form. Apollo won the New York Grand Prix in October and Everest Radius won four classes for his rider during that North American tour.

Malcolm Pyrah and John Whitaker are the two British riders Skelton fears most. Pyrah won last month's Berlin qualifying round for the World Cup on Towerlands Anglezarke and Whitaker, Skelton's great friend as well as rival, won the qualifier at Bordeaux last weekend on Clonee Temple, making him *joint leader of the European League*. Skelton is third. Only the top 20 riders in the European League qualify for the World Cup final in Berlin in April so each qualifying round – this is the fifth of 12 – is hotly contested.



Skelton: three horses

Whitaker will probably ride Ryan's Son in Saturday's competition. The 16-year old horse has not jumped since Wembly but is reported fit and well. Whitaker's British rivals will include David Broome, Harvey Smith and the full British Olympic team, Tim Grubb having flown over from America for the show. He has been lent three horses by Ted Edgar including the very able Arabeske.

Most unlucky of the Olympic riders is Michael Whitaker, who lost Samir Mahmoud's Disney Way, one of his best horses, last month. The horse failed to come round from the anaesthetic after an operation in Berlin to remove a splint. Whitaker is already without his Olympic horse, Amanda, who will not be fit again until March following an operation on her intestines in October. At Olympia Whitaker places his hopes in Owen Gregory, a tough, reliable campaigner, and the *rapidly improving mare Tamara*.

Lionel Dunning is a notable absentee from this year's show. His horse box was in collision with a police car on Sunday afternoon and Synapse and Durrow, two of the horses he had entered for Olympia, were both injured.

The organizers of Olympia are justified in feeling a passing sense of satisfaction at the impressive array of foreign riders who have accepted invitations to compete. Among the 13 are the West German European champion, Paul Schockemöhle, Thomas Fruhmann and Hugo Simon of Austria, Eddie Macken, of the Republic of Ireland, and the 1984 World Cup Winner from Canada, 19-year-old Mario Deslauriers who will be competing in England for the first time.

Moses's new hurdle

The Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion, Edwin Moses, has been chosen as one of three American representatives on the International Athletic Federation (IAAF). Moses is the first active athlete to become a full IAAF delegate. The other American representatives are Richard Hollander and Dr Leroy Walker, the coach to the 1976 US Olympic ream and now president of the Athletic Congress.

Bing's fellow anglers say thanks for the memory

By Conrad Voss Bark

FISHING

Bing Crosby sang well but he fished better, or so I was once assured. It is not unlikely. Many a man's hobby is of more importance to him than his job. Bing Crosby was a familiar figure on many rivers, especialy in Iceland, almost invariably wearing a trilby hat, smoking a straight-grain briar pipe, and casting a line that went out delicately true and far. The pipe, the hat, and his fishing tackle are now in a museum in Manchester, Vermont.

They join a collection of more than a thousand fly rods, 400 reels, and heaven knows how many flies that once belonged to Eisenhower, Hoover, Carnegie, Hemingway, and many another famous Americans, now preserved in the newly-created and spacious galleries of the American Museum of Fly Fishing. We have nothing comparable in our country. Our treasures – and we have many – are spread widely in private collections.

In the United States if anyone wants to see the original dressings of the Adams or the Quill Gordons or the rods that were used at the time of Jesse James, they have only to go to Manchester, Vermont, where everything has been brought together under one roof. It is also possible to enjoy putting a fly on the bright and lovely Battenkill river which lies close by.

Many thousands of people go there, to speculate, stand and stare. One of the interesting things to me was the number of Amrican politicians who have been passionate fishermen, among them three, possibly four, Presidents. We have had Prime Ministes who have smoked pipes, played golf and shot grouse, but the only minister of Cabinet rank that I can *think* of who was a great fly fisherman was Edward Grey, who was Foreign Secretary for about 15 years before and during the First World War.

Whether his colleagues approved or disapproved of Grey's hobby I do not know, but the Prime Minister certainly thought it was a bit odd. Lloyd George is on record as saying: "Grey would have risen to great heights if he hadn't wasted his time fishing."

TENNIS

Wilander to be top seed at Birmingham

Mats Wilander, twice champion of Australia and once champion of France, will be the top seed in the men's singles tournament to be sponsored by Belgian American Investments at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from January 2 to 6 (Rex Bellamy writes). The other seeds will be Henrik Sundstrom, Joakim Nystrom, Pat Cash, Aaron Krickstein, Stefan Edberg, Libor Pimek and Guy Forget.

The field of 24 consists of 18 players who qualified by their world rankings, and six – among them Stuart Bale and Stephen Shaw of Britain – who were specially invited. Shaw, born on January 1, 1963, will be the oldest competitor in a *tournament* restricted to players born in 1963 or later.

● The Lawn Tennis Association are to run a second series of men's satellite tournament's in January and February with overall prize money of £26,000 and carrying computer ranking points.

The LTA's decision to organize a second series comes after the success of the first one, when Britain's Jeremy Bates won the overall title.

Robin Knox-Johnston talks to Barry Pickthall

Master sails against the wind

"Any man who cuts himself off from the outside world for 10 months, to face alone the savagery of the sea, must be stronged-willed; Robin Knox-Johnston, the first man to complete a solo non-stop circumnavigation of the world back in 1969, is stronger than most.

This master mariner, now aged 45, rarely suffers fools and having once taken up an argument or challenge, rarely makes a U-turn. The Spanish race committee discovered this to their cost when daring to criticize some design aspects of his latest racing catamaran, British Airways I, before the start of the current Route of Discovery transatlantic race in Benal Madina. Knox-Johnston adamantly refused to fit crosslines under the trampoline netting spanning the two hulls forward of the mast, and the officials ruled this unsafe.

Knox-Johnston's stance left the committee with the unenviable choice of disqualifying him from this inauguaral race, or backing down. Not surprisingly perhaps, they chose the easier course.

Launched to take on and beat the French, the current leaders in long distance multi-hull racing, Knox-Johnston's 60ft catamaran has been variously described, on both sides of the Channel, as being overweight, under-canvassed and outdated. "It's like turning up for the Spanish 500cc world championship with a Triumph Bonneville", one French commentator said before the start of the Spanish transatlantic race.



Knox-Johnston: strong

Knox-Johnston remained unmoved. "Just wait until the fleet hits heavy weather", he said with a wink. "The boat may look bulky, but she is deceptively light." He insists that her all-up weight is no more than six tons, but her designer, Rod McAlpine Downie, put the figure nearer seven at the naming ceremony in London five weeks ago. The French agree – and seven tons, according to them, is heavy.

"The major French races are all off the wind, which has encouraged very lightweight designs, while the principal British events, like the OSTAR and 2-STAR races, are to windward, which calls for a stronger boat". Knox-Johnston countered. As British multihull designs have won both elapsed and corrected time honours (admittedly in French hands) in this year's OSTAR, he has a point.

Before the *Observer* two-handed transatlantic race in June, Knox-Johnston and his French crewmate, Bernard Gallay, plan to take up the challenge that beat Chay Blyth last month: the 89-day sailing record from New York to San Francisco set by the clipper ship, Flying Cloud, 133 years ago. "I have a great deal of respect for Chay Blyth and Cape Horn. He was very unlucky," Knox-Johnston said. "We will be rounding the Cape in the southern hemisphere equivalent of our August, which should provide more hospitable weather than in the spring when Chay was capsized."

Knox-Johnston's plan is to set out from New York in April, race down through the south Atlantic as fast as possible, then seek shelter behind the mountainous islands around Cape Horn, waiting for the weather to break, before scurrying northwards, into the record books.

It is a challenge that will require preparation, perseverance and a strong boat. Knox-Johnston has all three, plus a fierce determination, not least to prove wrong his critics, particularly the French.



FOOTBALL: HODDLE INJURED AND SEVEN BOOKED IN BATTLE OF PRAGUE

Tottenham win their colours stained in their own blood

From Clive White, Prague

Bohemians 1
Tottenham 1
(Tottenham win 3-1 on aggregate)

Tottenham Hotspur, faced with despicable provocation, answered it in the best way – the only way – possible by inflicting defeat upon their enemy over the two legs to reach the quarter-final round of the UEFA Cup for the fifth time in as many attempts. But the price was high, quite apart from the bruising and battering they suffered. Hoddle was struck in the face after 44 minutes and carried off on a stretcher with blood streaming from a gashed eye.

Seven players were booked, including Roberts, one of the more courageous young men who proudly wore the colours of Tottenham this day though in his case, also, they were speckled with his own blood. He will now miss the first leg in the next round and that could be crucial since it is the one area in which Tottenham are not well supported. Miller and Falco also had their names taken but their misdemeanours were nothing compared to some of the vicious acts of their hosts, many of which went unseen by a nevertheless observant Belgian referee. It was impossible for him to catch everything but it was amazing how some of the Czechoslovaks stayed on the field.

Their aggressive attitude was extraordinary given their undoubted ability which they had demonstrated at White Hart Lane in the first leg. These were misguided tactics yesterday since Tottenham do not scare that easily. Peter Shreeves, the Tottenham manager, said afterwards that their coach's instructions [illegible] it would be a day for men. [illegible] football that we saw from them in the first [illegible] however [illegible] was superb."

[illegible] fouled and Kukucka cynically kicked him in the stomach as he walked by. When Crooks tried to draw the referee's attention to the villain, Kukucka spat in his face. But in the seventh minute the Czechoslovaks received a blow that was as jolting as any they dished out. Galvin quickly turned in a cross and Falco, unmarked, headed comfortably home for his fourth goal in four games. It immediately took some of the pressure off Tottenham and presented Bohemians with a compulsory target of four goals to score.

But the goal further incensed Bohemians and Jakubec clattered ferociously into Galvin and was booked. Marcik, one of the worst offenders, went unpunished until fate took a hand. In trying to impale Galvin to the pitch, he injured himself and limped out of the game.

Tottenham defended with great discipline, seldom allowing Bohemians to shoot. When they did Clemence was equal to anything they could offer. Then a minute before half-time, perhaps in frustration as much as anything, the cultured Sloup dispensed with refinery and smashed Hoddle to the floor with a backhander.

It was he, not Hoddle, who should have left the field. Hoddle needed four stitches in a cut over his left eye. It went against the grain to see Sloup celebrating Bohemians's equalizer six minutes into the second half when his cross was nicely headed in by Prokes.

Kukucka, who had horrified Tottenham with his conduct when they watched a video of [illegible] here, [illegible] how the [illegible] managed to finish with so many players still on the field.

BOHEMIANS: [illegible] K Prokes, [illegible] P [illegible] V [illegible]
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: R Clemence; G Stevens, [illegible] Roberts, [illegible] G Mabbutt, [illegible] Galvin.
Referee: A Ponnet (Belgium).



Pain in the neck: Whyte of Cambridge gets the elbow (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Oxford's pride bruised again

By Marcus Williams

Oxford Univ 2
Cambridge Univ 4

Oxford's sporting pride, already severely battered at Twickenham on Tuesday, suffered another blow at Wembley yesterday in the 101st University football match. Cambridge, the better organized and more composed team, recovered from the loss of a two-goal lead to win the CB Fry Trophy for the first time in six years and to achieve their biggest score since they won by the same margin in 1963.

Although the dank December afternoon was warmed by a good ration of excitement and goals, it was disappointing to see both sides employing a rigid offside trap; but whereas Cambridge's defence, built around Rentoul and Baker, had a solid look, through-passes repeatedly opened gaps the width of Broad Street in Oxford's back line. After scrappy opening exchanges a badly needed goal arrived in the 23rd minute when Marshall slipped the ball inside and Elliott deftly beat the stranded Crummett from 15 yards.

With the speedy Marshall having a field day on the right wing, Whyte soon made it 2-0 with a firm header at the far post, after Marshall's corner-kick had been flicked on from the other post. Whyte was one of five Old Wulfrunians who all made their mark on the match and it was the Oxford representative, Husselbee, who reduced the arrears – he has now scored on each of his four appearances at Wembley – with a goal from the penalty spot after Wesson, a convert from the oval ball game, had tripped Gazidis.

Lucky to have been given a lifeline, the Dark Blues came out strongly for the second half and on the hour they equalized. A clever touch by Husselbee, for once beating his shadow, Rentoul, set up a goal for the hard working Hunter. Cambridge's riposte was immediate. Within two minutes they had twice cut Oxford open: the first time Crummett saved well from Walsh, the second Harper took his chance with great aplomb.

"Varty" foraged hard and one marvellous swing of the hips once took Husselbee through the defence, but Oxford's force was spent by the time Marshall scored Cambridge's fourth goal three minutes from time.

OXFORD: S Crummett (Manchester GS and St Edmund Hall); [illegible]
CAMBRIDGE: [illegible]
Referee: V N Crew (Kent).

Verity appointed

Kevin Verity, the Midlands (West) F.A. regional coach, has been appointed the manager of the England semi-professional team. He succeeds Keith Wright, who is taking up the post of secretary to the English Golf Union in February.

SQUASH RACKETS

Williams is a big noise with high-technology racket

By Colin McQuillan

The fast and furious dismissal of the defending champion, Philip Kenyon, from the semi-finals of the British championships at Sheffield last night, by the imperious left-handed Geoff Williams, perfectly illustrates the manner in which rapidly improving racket design is instrumental in changing the top personnel.

Williams, the Manchester-based top seed, and one of the first to use the new generation graphite racket, defeated Kenyon 9-2, 9-7, 9-3, in 54 minutes of masterly control. Kenyon, the third seed and still using wooden rackets, joins the No 2 seed, Gawain Briars, another wood racket man, in the discarded list at Sheffield. Prior to the introduction of the new rackets, these two men played in the last five British closed finals.

Almost all the players breaking through this year are wielding the high-technology rackets: expensive tools which many believe, have already raised the standard of tournament squash several points. Conversely, many of the more established players suffering shock defeats seemingly every day, are still tied to contracts that require them to appear on court with traditional wooden rackets.

Of course, Martine Le Moignan still produces flashing shots from a wooden ProKennex and Jamie Hickox plays what many see as the most scintillating style in the game with a traditional Dunlop Maxplay.

It is noticeable, however, that the players beginning to disturb the tournament establishment usually prefer the new lightweight big-headed rackets, which they claim are quicker to the shot, thus giving greater choice, and faster through the air, which imparts significantly more power and speed to the ball.

Geoff Williams began his meteoric rise just over a season ago, when he switched to the first graphite range issued by Slazenger. Bryan Beeson carved his way unseeded to the semi-finals against Ashley Naylor with a new Multi-sport graphite. Three of the women's semi-finalists were playing with the new generation rackets.

Lucy Soutter changed to an oversized graphite produced by the Browning machinegun manufacturers a few weeks ago and almost immediately mowed down Susan Devoy, the British Open champion, in a special women's challenge.

Nicky Spurgeon rose from the depths of the women's national ranking to steal last month's British Under-23 Championship and to challenge for this senior title as soon as she signed with the Wilson tennis and golf equipment group to exclusively promote their new £100 up-market graphite racket. Alison Cumings, her British doubles champion partner and semi-finals opponent last night, has for some time used the same Slazenger graphite model favoured by Williams.

Of the Sheffield entry of 128 men and women, more than half were equipped with graphite rackets, of which 56 were recorded in a special marketing survey as featuring the oversized heads known to provide a larger "sweetspot", reduce errors, and increase shot power.

Williams: imperious.

BOBSLEIGH

Deere is forced into line

By Chris Moore

John Deere, the defending champion, has had his wings clipped in his attempt to retain the four-man title at this weekend's British championships, sponsored by Allied Steel, here.

The 36-year-old insurance broker for Lloyds in London has spent the last two days training with the Austrian national squad, instead of with the other British crews.

He is also employing a new Austrian coach, Helmuth Saisceck, for his expert advice on the best way to drive the 1976 Olympic track, and is hoping to borrow a new Austrian sledge to increase his chances of winning the four-man title for the third successive year. Without going to such lengths, Deere gives himself little chance of being able to seriously challenge the favourite, Nick Phipps.

But last night after an approach from some of the other British drivers, the team manager, Mo Hammond, discussed the situation with Deere and requested him to rejoin the fold for the final two days of practice.

"It has nothing to do with the fact that he is being coached, or that the might be loaned an Austrian sledge", said Hammond. "It's simply a question of everyone practising under the same conditions."

Reluctantly, Deere has agreed to fall into line, though not without some reservations. "To my mind, it's within the interests of British bobsleighing that we have as close a race as possible", he said. "I am way behind Nick Phipps on ice-time this season. I have a completely new crew and a three-year-old sledge as against his new one.

"I haven't come out of retirement to hand him the title on a plate.

TENNIS

Lloyd goes out on day of surprises

Sydney (Agencies) – John Lloyd, seeded fourth in the New South Wales Open here, was beaten 6-2, 6-1 in the second round yesterday by Sammy Giammalva, a 21-year-old American.

Colin Dowdeswell was another British casualty, going out 6-3, 7-5 to Ben Testerman, of the United States, who reached the semi-final of the Australian Open recently.

Lloyd was one of five seeds who were knocked out of the second round. Hank Pfister produced the surprise of the day by beating fellow American second seed, Tim Mayotte, 4-6, 7-6, 7-5.

Pfister, who considered retirement earlier this year after failing to win a competitive match between April and August, refused to allow Mayotte, ranked 19th in the world to his 116th, to dictate the terms of their match. Mayotte served for the match contest at 5-4 in the second set but Pfister rallied to produce a win which earned him a meeting with John Fitzgerald, the Australian Davis Cup player in the last 16.

Two other seeds, Mike Bauer, of the United States, and Guy Forget, of France, lost to Americans who had played through the qualifying tournament. Bauer, last year's losing finalist, was beaten 6-4, 4-6, 6-0 by 21-year-old Ken Flach, while Forget, who was troubled by a nosebleed at the end of the match, went out 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, tio Tom Cain.

Miloslav Mecir, the seventh seed from Czechoslovakia, lost 6-3, 7-5 to Peter Doohan a 23-year-old Australian.

Lloyd: early exit

Ashe tries out cup court

Gothenburg (Reuter) – Arthur Ashe, the United States non-playing team captain said yesterday that the indoor clay court built for their Davis Cup final against Sweden this weekend was faster than he had expected.

After testing the court himself, Ashe said the surface resembled that of the court at Grenoble on which the United States beat France two years ago and predicted that his team would claim a 29th Davis Cup title for their country. But he said: "Sweden clearly has a chance of winning. This will be the toughest Davis Cup final for 30 years."

The United States team comprises John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors, Peter Fleming and Jimmy Arias. All four Swedish players – Mats Wilander, Anders Jarryd, Henrik Sundstrom and Stefan Edberg – are clay court specialists.

Sweden's non-playing captain, Hans Olsson, chose clay in an attempt to slow the Americans down. Ashe said the fact that the main court and practice court were laid so quickly ha made them faster than outdoor clay. Both were laid in one week, using a total of 400 tonnes of clay.

Menotti linked with Fiorentina job

Florence (Reuter) – Giancarlo De Sisti yesterday resigned as manager of the Italian first division club, Fiorentina, rather than share the job. Ferruccio Valcareggi, 65, is to take over as manager until the end of the season. His first game will be Fiorentina's home league match against Juventus on Sunday.

De Sisti, criticized for Fiorentina's indifferent league form and a humiliating defeat by Anderlecht of Belgium in the UEFA Cup, said the last straw was when Dynamo Kiev of the Soviet Union beat his team 5-0 last Sunday. He said he decided to step down after the Fiorentina club president Ranieri Pontello and his father, Count Flavin Pontello, who owns a majority stake in the club, had proposed hiring Valcareggi as co-manager.

"I have nothing against Valcareggi personally, but I could not accept a proposal of that kind. I believe I should be free to make my own mistakes if necessary", De Sisti said at a news conference in Florence. Italian newspapers have speculated that Cesar Luis Menotti, the former Argentinian manager, may become the club manager next season. Daniel Passarella, former Argentinian captain, plays for Fiorentina.

Vienna (Reuter) – Branko Elsner, a Yugoslav sports professor, has been appointed as trainer of Austria's national team.

Elsner, director of a sports college in Ljubljana, takes over as national trainer, on January 15 from Erich Hof, who resigned last month.

Under Hof, Austria have made a moderate start to their 1986 World Cup qualifying campaign.

Brussels (Reuter) – Police have seized accounts belonging to the Belgian Football Federation in connection with investigations into "black money" payments to Belgian players during the 1982 World Cup, a justice spokesman said yesterday.

Officials questioned five players and the federation chairman, Louis Wouters, late on Monday and examined the organization's files, a federation spokesman said. Last month five clubs were ordered to pay up to Bel Fr42 million (about £580,000) each in back-dated taxes and fines.

(Reuter) – France, the European champions are likely to play World champions Italy in Monaco next February. The match would inaugurate a new stadium in the Mediterranean principality and give France a game during a four-month gap in their World Cup qualifying programme.

Big pay day eludes Dartford

Dartford's hopes of facing Manchester United at Old Trafford ended abruptly when they were beaten 4-1 in Tuesday night's FA Cup second round replay at Bournemouth. Now the fouth division side can contemplate repeating last season's shock FA Cup win over Ron Atkinson's side on January 5, when Dartford will have to settle for meeting Prickley Athletic in a Gola League fixture.

Dartford were still in contention until the last five minutes, when Colin Russell and Billy Rafferty scored Bournemouth's third and fourth goals. It took Bournemouth 35 minutes to go ahead through their youth team coach, Keith Williams, but they looked safe when Bobby Savage added a 59th-minute penalty. Mickey Dingwall, Dartford's £3,000 signing from Maidstone, scored his first goal for the club after 75 minutes.

Harry Redknapp, Bournemouth's manager, said: "There was £40,000 at stake for this club and it showed. There was a lot of pressure on the players."

Southend United Supporters' Loan Club officials are still trying to find the cash to pay out investors. On Tuesday night, for the second time, there were no funds in the kitty for the 600 club members who have saved £116,000.

The club secretary, Keith Holmes, said yesterday: "We are doing our best to get the money and I am guaranteeing fans will receive it well in time for Christmas. I am prepared to put my own house for sale if necessary."

Arsenal rebuffed over Williams bid

Southampton have rejected Arsenal's bid for Steve Williams, their England midfield player. Alan Woodford, the Southampton chairman, said yesterday: "we have not received an acceptable offer for the player."

Arsenal are still the only club to have made a firm offer for Williams and are likely to increase their opening bid. Don Howe, the manager said: "we all have to start somewhere. They have put their valuation on the player and we have our idea of what he is worth to this club. I am still waiting to hear officially whether our offer has been accepted."

Birmingham city yesterday escaped a Football League ban on transfer dealings by handing over a £5,000 instalment on Wayne Clarke's summer transfer from Wolves. The money was not paid by the December 1 deadline and the League imposed a suspension on transfers this week.

Birmingham, who are still trying to arrange an extension of Tony Morley's loan from West Bromwich Albion, are likely to attempt to finance future purchases by listening to offers for Mick Harford.

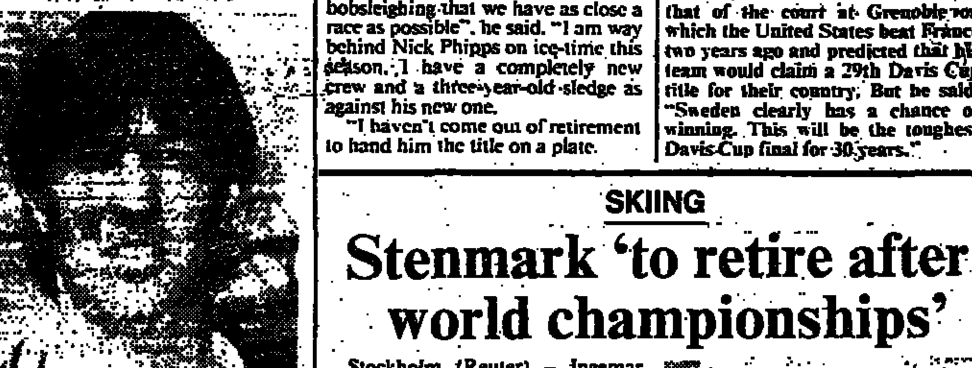
David Bowman, the Heart of Midlothian midfield player, signed for Coventry City yesterday on a three year contract at a transfer fee of £100,000.

Sheffield United yesterday joined Notts County, fellow second dividion strugglers, in the chase for Mel Eves. Eves, top scorer with Wolves during their promotion season to the first division two years ago, is now with Manchester City but is available without a fee.

Kim Christofte, the Danish International, is being given a week's trial by Leicester City. The 24-year-old utility player has seven caps. Gordon Milne, the manager, said a permanent move could result.



Williams: wanting a move



Newcastle's Cup date switched

Newcastle United have been ordered to play their FA Cup third round tie at Nottingham Forest on Sunday, January 6. The Football Association decided to insist on the change because Forest's neighbours, Notts County, also have a home tie, against Grimsby.

Newcastle wanted to keep their game on Saturday, January 5 and originally rejected Forest's request for a change of a day. But an FA spokesman said yesterday: "We are acting on the advice of the police. They wanted the Newcastle match to be moved, so there was no way out."

The FA have alos given permission for Burton Albion's FA Cup third round home tie with Leicester City to be played at Derby County's ground on Saturday, January 5.

● Allied Properties have planned a £22 million redevelopment scheme at Molyneux which is being partly financed by Government urban development grants, and is due to start next spring.

Tuesday's results

FA CUP: Second round replays: Bournemouth 4, Dartford 1 (winners away to Manchester United); Northampton 0, Brentford 0 (abandoned 26 mins, fog).
FOURTH DIVISION: Chester 0, Rochdale 1.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Witton Albion 1, Burton Albion 2.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Bill Dellow Cup: Second round: Folkestone 2, Gravesend 0.
IRISH LEAGUE: Cliftonville 0, Linfield 4.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: League Cup: Third round: Barton Rovers 1, Hendon 2; Epsom and Ewell 3, Haybridge Swifts 2; Farnborough 2, Wokingham 0; Sutton United 4, Stevenage Borough 1. Postponed: Aveley v Lewes; Leyton-Wingate v Harrow; Wycombe Wanderers v Bishop's Stortford. Premier division: Postponed: Leytonstone/Ilford v Harlow. Second division south: Whyteleafe 2, Grays 0.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bradford City 1, Everton 6; Manchester City 1, Derby 0; Sheffield Wednesday 4, Notts County 1. Second division: Blackpool 4, Middlesbrough 2; Wigan 2, Rotherham 1 (abandoned after 78 min).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Birmingham 2, Reading 1; Brighton 1, Chelsea 4; Crystal Palace 5, Swindon 0; Fulham 0, Millwall 0; QP Rangers 5, West Ham 0.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Southend 3, Peterborough 1.
EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Histon 2, Braintree 1. Postponed: Gorleston v Lowestoft; Tiptree v Sudbury.
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Stoke 0, Wolves 4; Walsall 1, Nottingham Forest 4; Hednesford 1, Mansfield 1. Postponed: Gillingham v Carshalton.

Last night's results

UEFA Cup
Third round, second leg
BOHEMIANS (0) 1 TOTTENHAM (1) 1
Prokes Falco
17,500
(Tottenham win 3-1 on agg)
UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford 2, Cambridge 4 (at Wembley).

SKIING

Stenmark 'to retire after world championships'

Stockholm (Reuter) – Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, may retire after the World Championships early next year, Swedish newspapers reported yesterday. Stenmark finished 13th in the World Cup giant slalom at Sestriere on Tuesday, after failing to finish in all three previous events this season.

One newspaper, *Morningen Svenska Dagbladet*, said he now looks likely to ignore the World Cup and concentrate on the World Championships. It quoted Stenmark as saying: "If I don't have a chance to win, there is not much point in going on."

The paper added: "There are several indicatios that Ingemar will end his fantastic career at Bormio, where he could become the first man in alpine skiing history to win three seccessive World Championship gold medals."

At Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 1978, Stenmark, 28, won both the slalom and giant slalom golds and in Schladming, in 1982, he took the slalom crown.

A second national daily paper *Dagens Nyheter*, blamed Stenmark's relaxed attitude for his lack of success this year. "We can give no answer to why "Victory-machine Stenmark's has stopped working.

● Zurich (Reuter) – Michela Figini, women's downhill winner in the Saragevo winter Olympics, has been voted 'Sportswoman of the Year' in the Swiss Sports Journalists Union's annual poll.

The award–for Best Sportsman went to the swimmer Etienne Dagon, a bronze medallist in the 200-metre breaststroke at the Los Angeles Olympics.

The trend towards Olympic medal winners continued in the team awards. Switzerland's cycling quartet, who won silver medals in the road race at the Olympics, were the winners.



Stenmark: poor season

RACKETS

Boone win sets up another clash with Prenn

By William Stephens

William Boone, who won the world championship on December 1 from John Prenn, reached the final of the Celestion invitation singles tournament when he defeated Randall Crawley by 15-12, 15-4, 15-10 at Queen's Club, on Tuesday evening.

Boone knows Crawley's game well since together they have held the amateur doubles championship since 1980 and the open title since its inception in 1981. Crawley, the youngest winner of the H. K. Foster Cup when barely 16, in 1966, is a graceful timer of the ball, but although he held Boone at 12-12 in the first game, he could not win the vital points. He also built up a substantial lead in the third.

Prenn defeated the double-handed James Male by 15-7, 17-14, 15-8 in the other semi-final. In the second game Male achieved a lead of 11-4, but Prenn was too sharp.

SEMI-FINALS: W Boone bt R S Crawley 15-12, 15-4, 15-10, J A N Prenn bt J S Male 15-7, 17-14, 15-8

SQUASH RACKETS

MUSCAT: Grand Prix: First round: H Jahan (Eng) bt G Awad (Egypt) 9-6, 9-1, 1-9, 2-9, 9-4; Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt G Brumby (Aus) 9-0, 9-5, 9-2; M Saad (Egypt) bt S Davenport (NZ) 9-4, 4-9, 9-4, 9-0; C Dittmar (Aust) bt K Smith (Aust) 9-1, 7-9, 9-0, 5-9, 9-2.

BOXING

McGuigan tunes up for date with Ruan

Barry McGuigan, looking lean and hungry, boxed five impressive rounds in Belfast yesterday, in his final public work-out before the defence of his British and European featherweight titles against Clyde Ruan, of Slough, at the Ulster Hall on Wednesday (Gerorge Ace writes).

Gerald Hayes, of New Jersey, and Andreas Tenna, of New York, were McGuigan's sparring partners. Hayes boasts a win over the former world champion, Juan Laporte, and has shared a ring in defeat with the current champion, Eusebio Pedroza. Tenna has won 17 of his 18 bouts, eight inside the distance.

McGuigan moved in style and drew warm acclaim from Hayes, who said: "Barry is a busy fighter with a lot of natual talent. He learns fast and I am looking forward to seeing him in real action against Ruan."

B.J. Eastwood, McGuigan's manager, confirmed that Barry will feature on a coast-to-coast American television promotion by CBS at the King's Hall early in the New Year. Eastwood said: "McGuigan will box a top-ranked fighter, but I am still in negotiation, with three possibles. It could be a week or so before arrangements are completed."

The odds at the moment would seem to favour Laporte, and Hayes had this to say about that possibility: "Laporte relies heavily on the big shot. He wants to knock everybody out and I think his style of fighting would suit McGuigan, who is a box-fighter."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Nottingham Forest v Sheffield United (7.0); Stoke City v Coventry City (7.0).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Fulham v Brighton (2.0); Millwall v Birmingham City (2.0).
FA YOUTH CUP: Second round, replay: Brentford v Queen's Park Rangers (7.30).

OTHER SPORT
BASKETBALL: Kellogg's Cup: Semi-finals, second leg (first leg scores in brackets): John Carr Doncaster (80) v FSO Cars Warrington (82) (7.45); Kingston Kingcraft (98) v Cotrils Manchester (97) (7.45).
EQUESTRIANISM: Olympia International championships (Olympia, 7.0).
SNOOKER: Hofmeister world doubles championships, quarter-finals (Derngate Centre, Northampton, 2.0 and 7.0).
SQUASH RACKETS: British championships: women's final (6.30); men's final (8.0) (Abbeydale Park, Sheffield).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Skerrett may make a comeback

Garry Clark, the Hull Kingston Rovers winger, and Shaun Wane, the Wigan prop, are fit to play with Great Britain's under-21 team in the return match against France at Albi on Sunday.

They have satisfied officials about their fitness after injury and will team up with the British squad when they report for final training at Rothwell tomorrow.

A problem for the British coach is the appearance of Andy Platt, the St Helen's forward, before a diciplinary committee in Leeds today after being sent off in a game earlier this month. If Platt is suspended he will miss the trip to France.

Trevor Skerrett, the Hull prop forward, who was named captain of Great Britain's summer tour to Australia but withdrew with knee trouble, may come back before the end of the year.

Skerrett recovered to return for Hull, but broke down again two months ago.

An operation has revealed no cartilage or ligament damage and he hopes to get the all-clear from a specialist next week.

IN BRIEF

Call to ban world's top two after drug fines

Toronto (AFP) – The Canadian Sports Minister, Otto Jelinek, wants the International Weightlifting Federation to consider banning two leading Soviet weighlifters who were fined after being arrested for having more than Can$10,000 (£5,700) worth of anabolic steroids in their possession.

The super-heavyweights, Anatoly Pisarenko, the world champion, and Alexander Kurlovich, were stopped by Montreal airport customs last Thursday and fined Can$300 and Can$500 respectively in court the following day.

They were accused of having the drugs to sell, although a spokesman for the Canadian Foreign Ministry said Soviet officials told them the products were solely for the two men's own use.

SWIMMING: Katharine Read, who represented Britain in the 200 metres backstroke at the Los Angeles Olympics, has pulled out of the British squad for the European Cup short-course meeting at Bergen this weekend. Cathy White will take her place.

CROSS–COUNTRY: Tim Hutchings (Crawley) and Dave Clarke (Hercules Wimbledon) are in the South of England team to compete in the Rank Xerox international race at Ipswich on Saturday.

BASKETBALL: Solent Stars, who face extinction unless money is found quickly, will go ahead with their home game against Doncaster on Saturday with the supporters club as promoters.

MOTOR SPORT: Scots scooped the pool in the annual Howitt Printing driver and rider of the year awards, based on performances at Donington Park. Johnny Dumfries, the British Formula Three champion, was top driver and Donnie McLeod top rider.

BOXING: James Shuler, the leading challenger to Marvin Hagler, the World Boxing Association middleweight champion, will meet another American, James Kinchen, in Atlantic City on February 16.

● Gerry Cooney's comeback win over George Chaplin in Phoenix, Arizona, last week was a financial washout. Only 4,659 paid to see it and the promoters lost $250,000.

ICE SKATING: Paced by Ekaterine Gordeeva and Sergei Grinkov, the Soviet Union made a clean sweep of the pairs event at the 1985 world junior figure skating championships at Colarado Springs. Second to them in the short programme were Irina Mironenko and Dmitri Shkidchenko and third Elena Gud and Eugeni Koltun.

FOR THE RECORD

TENNIS
TOKYO: Women's tournament, first round: T Phelps (US), by A Kiyomura (Jap), 6-0, 7-5; L Bonder (US), bt E Inoue (Jap), 6-4, 6-1. Second round: B Potter (US), bt B Bunge (WG), 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; C Lindqvist (Swe), bt L Antonoplis (US), 6-4, 7-5; G Fernandez (P Rico), bt V Ruzici (Rom), 6-7, 6-1, 6-4; C Bassett (Can), bt C Tanvier (Fra), 7-5, 6-3.
SYDNEY: New South Wales Open: Men's Singles, second round: H Pfister (US), bt T Mayotte (US), 4-6, 7-6, 7-5; W Masur (Aus), bt E Edwards (A), 4-0, retired; B Testerman (US), bt C Dowdeswell (GB), 6-3, 7-5; W Scanlon (US), bt T Benhabiles (Fr), 6-4, 6-4; J Kriek (US), bt D Seltz (US), 6-4, 7-6; S Davis (US) bt M Kratzmann (Aus), 6-1, 6-4; B Drewett (Aus), bt C van Rensburg (SA), 7-6, 6-3; K Curren (SA), bt D Keretic (WG), 6-4, 6-4; J Fitzgerald (Aus), bt S Simonsson (Swe), 6-2, 6-1; S Giammalva (US), bt J Lloyd (GB), 6-2, 6-1; K Flach (US), bt M Bauer (US), 6-4, 4-6, 6-0; T Cain (US), bt G Forget (Fr), 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; P Doohan (Aus), bt M Mecir (Cz), 6-3, 7-5; M Davis (US), bt K Warwick (Aus), 4-6, 7-6, 1-0, retired; S Perkis (Isr), bt I Shiras (US), 6-4, 7-6; T Gullikson (US), bt M Anger (US), 6-2, 6-7, 7-5.
PLANTATION, Florida: Sunshine Cup (under-18s): Men's singles, second round: A Janssen (Nor) bt S Cole (GB), 6-4, 6-4; P Moore (GB) bt A Haseth (Nor), 6-3, 6-1. Men's doubles, second round: Moore and Cole bt Jansen and Haseth, 7-5, 6-1.
WTA RANKINGS: 1, M Navratilova (US); 2, C Everett (US); 3, P Shriver (US); 4, H Mandlikova (Cz); 5, W Turnbull (Aus); 6, H Sukova (Cz); 7, K Jordan (US); 8, C Kohde-Kilsch (WG); 9, Z Garrison (US); 10, M Maleeva (Bul).

FOOTBALL
ROMANIAN LEAGUE: Sportul Studentesc 7, Chimia Rimnicu Vilcea 0; Rapid Bucharest 1, Gloria Buzau 1; FCM Brasov 3, FC Olt 0; Jiul Petrosani 2, FC Arges Pitesti 0; Politehnica Iasi 5, ASA Tirgu Mures 3; FC Baia Mare 0, Dynamo Bucharest 0; FC Bihor Oradea 2, Politehnica Timisoara 0; SC Bacau 0, Steaua Bucharest 1. Leading positions: 1, Dynamo Bucharest, 27pts; 2, Steaua Bucharest, 26; 3, Sportul Studentesc Bucharest, 24.

ICE HOCKEY
UNITED STATES: National League (NHL): New Jersey Devils 7, New York Islanders 5; Vancouver Canucks 4, Quebec Nordiques 3; St Louis Blues 3, Washington Capitals 3; Winnipeg Jets 5, Philadelphia Flyers 4.

YACHTING
MADRID: Colombus route trans-Atlantic race: 1, Credit Agricole (Fr), 1,747 miles from Santo Domingo; 2, Fleury Michon (Fr) 1,750; 3, Charente Maritime (Fr), 1,765; 4, Royale (Fr) 1,959; 5, Formule Tag (Can), 2,026. British positions: 18, British Airways (GB), 3,005.

RUGBY UNION
CLUB MATCHES: Exeter 13, Clifton 10; Newport 19, Aberavon 29.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Chatham House 6, Kent College 3, Marlborough 10, Glenalmond 15; Mill Hill 24, Armidale (Australia) 0; Wallington HS 10, Maidstone GS 7.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy 8, Hampshire 15.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Scottish Districts XV 3, New Zealanders 48, Tonbridge 7, Glenalmond 13.

FOOTBALL
SINGAPORE: Asian Cup finals: Group A: Saudi Arabia 1, Kuwait 0. Group B: China 5, United Arab Emirates 0.

BADMINTON
KUALA LUMPUR: Grand Prix championship finals: Women: Group One: H Troke (GB) bt C Magnusson (Swe), 11-0, 11-5. Group Two: Han Aiping (Ch) bt K Beckman (GB), 11-1, 11-2.

BASKETBALL
UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Boston Celtics 130, New Jersey Nets 121; Milwaukee Bucks 120, Cleveland Cavaliers 106; Utah Jazz 85, Washington Bullets 82; New York Knicks 118, Philadelphia 76ers 108; Detroit Pistons 108, Chicago Bulls 101; Kansas City Kings 121, San Antonio Spurs 120; Phoenix Suns 120, Houston Rockets 112; Denver Nuggets 123, Portland Trail Blazers 122; Los Angeles Clippers 118, Golden State Warriors 104.
National Trophy: Quarter-finals: Men: Sandwell Mail 112, Glucodin Plymouth Raiders 125.
EUROPEAN CUP WINNER'S CUP: Quarter-finals: Men: Hapoel Tel Aviv 96, FC Barcelona 101, Zhalgiris Kaunas (USSR) 118, Landes and Gir Vienna (Austria) 59, CAI Zaragoza 80, PAOK Thessalonika 76.
RONCHETTI CUP: Quarter-final, group D: Sparta Prague 81, Pall Avellino 43; MTK Budapest 73, DBB Vienna 44.
KORAC CUP: Quarter-final: Aris Thessalonika 103, Le Mans 90.

SNOOKER
NORTHAMPTON: World doubles championship: second round: T Griffiths and J Parrott bt R Bales and B Oliver 5-4, David Taylor and M Hallett bt E Charlton and W Werbeniuk (Can) 5-4.

RACING: GAYE CHANCE PAYS BURROUGH HILL LAD A MIGHTY COMPLIMENT AT HAYDOCK

McCain can grab some glory again with Kumbi

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Donald McCain, best known for his exploits with that legendary equine character Red Rum, has a good chance of grabbing some of the limelight again today at Haydock Park by saddling Kumbi, to win the Burnley Handicap Chase.

A winner of his first two races this season, at Ludlow and Bangor, Kumbi was then sent to Newbury in October to try to land the treble. He would have succeeded, in my opinion, had he not misjudged the second-last fence so badly that his rider had no chance of staying aboard.

The next time that Kumbi was seen in public was again on the Berkshire course where he finished a creditable fifth in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup. To say that he will not be encountering such stiff opposition today would be understating the situation. However, he will still have to be at his best to beat the recent Market Rasen winner, Kudos.

Earlier in the day The Liquidator, who was bought by Martin Pipe and Bob Wheatley this autumn as a replacement for their good jumper Baron Blakeney, quite possibly because he is a half brother to that horse, can win the Hindley Green Novices' Hurdle. There was much to like about the way that The Liquidator began his jumping career with a fluent victory at Hereford last week, and he is preferred now to Chipped Metal.

Francis Lee, who enjoyed many a happy moment not far from Haydock playing for Bolton and Manchester City, will deliver comparable pleasure if he wins the Golborne Novices' Hurdle with Miramac, whom he also trains. When in the care of Michael Jarvis, the Newmarket flat trainer, this half-brother to the Coronation Cup winner, Easter Sun, showed sufficient ability to indicate that he could make his mark at the winter game.

In napping Kilsyth to win the Christmas Cake Handicap Hurdle at Southwell, I am banking on David Burchell's five-year-old enjoying better luck than the last time she was sent on the long journey from Ebbw Vale to the Nottinghamshire course. On that occasion Kilsyth ran out after her bridle had broken fairly early on. In the meantime she has shown good form at Newton Abbot.

Teenage Love, a half brother to the good cahser Bronco II, will have a chance of winning the Christmas Party Conditional Jockeys' Novice Hurdle if he has improved since his quite promising run at Catterick while Kevinsfort, from Jimmy FitzGerald's stable, looks the one to be on for the Christmas Tree Handicap Chase

O'Neill returns to the fray

By Michael Seely

John O'Neill will resume riding on Atkinsons in the 3.30 race at Haydock this afternoon. The 32-year-old former champion has had two setbacks this season, on the first occasion having dislocated his hip at Chepstow on October 6. More recently he broke his left arm in a fall from Goosey Gander at Wetherby on November 2, so he has been out of action for six weeks during his latest spell of inactivity.

"I have had a plate put in the arm and I hope to be passed fit by the Haydock doctor", Britain's bravest and most resilient jockey said. "I've been riding quite a lot of work recently and I've also had four days hunting with the Cumberland Farmers. I've got three booked mounts in the next three afternoons, at Haydock tomorrow and at Doncaster on Friday and Saturday. So I will be glad of any spares that are going." Haydock was the course on which O'Neill recorded the fastest century ever achieved by a jockey in a season in February, 1978, although John Francome reached this notable landmark in a quicker time last season.

At Haydock yesterday Mercy Rimell won the day's big race, the Tommy Whittle Chase, when Sam Morshead rode Gaye Chance to a hard-fought length victory over Forgive N' Forget. A Kinsman finished seven lengths away in third place.

Even the cool and immaculate Mrs Rimell had tears in her eyes after this enthralling struggle. "He's quite simply one of the bravest horses I have ever known", she said afterwards. "He might run again over fences in the Mandarin Chase at Newbury, but his main target will be an attempt to win the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle at Cheltenham for the second successive year."

What a compliment did yesterday's winner pay to Burrough Hill Lad, who gave Gaye Chance 18lb and a four-lengths beating in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup.

Mrs Rimell then said that the blood count of Gaye Chance's full brother, Gaye Brief, had been found to be out of order after his disappointing defeat by Browne's Gazette at Cheltenham last Saturday. "There's nothing wrong with his back at all, you can quote me categorically on that", she continued. "He must have a virus of some sort. Whether he'll recover in time for the Christmas Hurdle at Kempton I can't possibly say. But he'll be back for certain. We might go for the race he won at Hereford last year."

Similarly, Jimmy Fitzgerald was thrilled with the running of Forgive N' Forget, who in finishing second here decisively reversed last season's Sun Alliance Chase placings with A Kinsman.

John Brockbank was also pleased with A Kinsman's performance. "Geordie Dunn said the horse could not go the pace in the last half mile", the Cumbrian farmer said. "He needs a strongly run race and a real test of stamina. I'm very tempted to go for the Welsh National."

Other news about Chepstow's marathon concerns Earl's Brig, who has twice unseated Peter Craggs since winning so impressively at Newcastle. William Hamilton, the hunter chaser's owner-trainer, has engaged Phil Tuck to replace Craggs, who has ridden Earl's Brig in 19 of his 20 races, at Chepstow on December 22. Corals, the sponsors, make Earl's Brig a 10-1 chance and are prepared to offer 16-1 against A Kinsman.

Morshead went on to ride his second winner of the afternoon when Joe Colombo proved too good for the penalized Golden Friend in the Boston Pit Handicap Chase. Peter Scudamore also landed a double by capturing the Ribble Novices Chase on Very Promising for David Nicholson and the Waterloo Handicap Hurdle on Triple Jump for Graham Thorner.

The other feature of the afternoon was a 103-1 double by Dai Burchell, a redundant steel worker from Ebbw Vale. Nigel Coleman rode both Bold Roderick, who finished strongly to foil the odds of 2-1 laid on Inisharran in the Ashton Novices' Hurdle. "We've been suffering from seconditis recently", a triumphant Burchell said. "But we'll be able to fill the Christmas stockings now."

Gaye Chance, a winner at Haydock yesterday, has the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle as his main objective

Cheltenham prize-money soars

A record £443,500 will be offered as added prize money for the National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham next March. This represents an increase of more than 8 per cent, or £33,500, on the 1984 figure.

At an average in excess of £24,600 per race, the Festival remains the most valuable race meeting, Flat or National Hunt in Britian. An additional £14,000 will be provided by sponsors, £18,000 by the Steeplechase Company and £1,500 by the Levy Board.

The value of the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup will be increased to £80,000 and the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle to £57,000.

HAYDOCK PARK

GOING: good

Tote double: 2.0, 3.0. Treble: 1.30, 2.30, 3.30.

1.0 HINDLEY GREEN NOVICE HURDLE (£1,212: 2m) (13 runners)

2 1 THE LIQUIDATOR (D) (B Wheatley) M Pipe 4-11-0 ... P Leach
3 00/31 CRISP AND KEEN (D) (B Mossley) K White 6-10-9 ... P Finch 7
6 0 BROCK MILL (A Mansley) Capt J Wilson 4-10-7 ... —
8 2 CHIPPED METAL (J Barlow) R B Francis 5-10-7 ... R Crank
12 2 GILDED CHIEF (Mrs J McMahon) B McMahon 7-10-7 ... —
16 00-0 MERCHANT FRUITERER (L Perry) B McMahon 4-10-7 ... —
17 OPEN THE BOX (J Wood) G Balding 5-10-7 ... B Reilly
18 PRINCE SWEET (G Richards) G Richards 4-10-7 ... N Doughty
20 TARQOGAN'S BEST (J Ennis) R Peacock 4-10-7 ... —
21 VALIANT WOOD (Mrs R Fitch) S Mellor 4-10-7 ... M Perrett
24 232232 MAGGIES GIRL (Mrs M Whiteman) Denys Smith 5-10-2 ... C Grant
27 0 MISHA (Capt J Wilson) Capt J Wilson 4-10-2 ... Mrs G Rees
28 u00 MISS KRUGERRAND (E Watkins) R Jeffrey 4-10-2 ... J Hansen 4

1983: Corporal Clinger 4-11-0 P Leach (4-1) M Pipe 19 ran.

7-4 The Liquidator, 4 Crisp And Keen, 5 Chipped Metal, 6 Gilded Chief, 10 Valiant Wood, 12 Prince Sweet, Tarqogan's Best, 20 others.

FORM: THE LIQUIDATOR (11-0) beat Al Trui (11-0) at Hereford (2m hdle, £1,692, soft, Dec 4, 16 ran). CRISP AND KEEN (10-5) beat Tin Boy (10-10) 8l at Ludlow (2m hdle, £611, good, Nov 23, 15 ran), when MERCHANT FRUITERER (11-2) always behind in 11th. CHIPPED METAL (10-7) 3l 2nd of 23 to Joy Ride (10-13) at Nottingham (2m hdle, £744, good, Dec 3). GILDED CHIEF (12-0) 7l 2nd of 18 to Melhagen (12-0) in Sedgefield amateurs nov hdle (2m, £548, soft, Nov 20). MAGGIES GIRL (10-9) 8l 2nd of 8 to Carneades (11-5) at Newcastle (2m hdle, £756, heavy, Dec 1).
Selection: THE LIQUIDATOR.

Haydock selections

By Mandarin

1.0 The Liquidator. 1.30 Jockambel. 2.0 Tot. 2.30 Kumbi. 3.0 Captain Oates. 3.30 Miramac.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.30 Kudos.

1.30 BIRKDALE NOVICE CHASE (£2,317: 3m) (7)

1 304-211 JOCKAMBEL (D) (D Thomson) D Thomson 8-11-8 ... T G Dun
3 3-12f COOL MAGIC (D) (F Jestin) F Jestin 6-11-1 ... —
5 f010/31 INKLING (Mrs E Wilmot) H Wharton 7-11-1 ... C Grant
6 3022-11 GOLDEN KNOLL (D) (Mrs J McKechnie) S Mellor 5-11-0 ... M Perrett
8 p/04-44 HILL GREEN (V Love) R B Francis 8-10-8 ... R Crank
9 1-44pu2 KING'S BRIG (S Hartley) G Richards 8-10-8 ... D Coakley 4
11 424-231 VON TRAPPE (P Clarke) M Oliver 7-10-8 ... R Dunwoody

1983: Red Mills 10-10-8 K Whyte (6-4 fav) M W Dickinson 9 ran.

15-8 Von Trappe, 5-2 Jockambel, 4 Golden Knoll, 6 Inkling, 8 Cool Magic, 16 others.

FORM: JOCKAMBEL (11-8) beat Zamandra (10-9) 7l at Wetherby (3m ch, £1,685, soft, Nov 27), with INKLING (11-0) 1½l away 3rd. INKLING, last time, beat Northern Bay (11-4) 1l at Uttoxeter (3m 2f ch, £2,481, good to soft, Dec 6, 12 ran), with HILL GREEN (10-11) 18l away 4th. GOLDEN KNOLL (11-0) beat Upham Kelly (11-0) neck at Leicester (3m ch, £1,208, good, Dec 4, 19 ran). COOL MAGIC, behind when fell in Newcastle race won by Jimbrook, previously (11-13) 15l 2nd of 5 finishers to Marathon Man (11-5) at Ayr (3m ch, £1,155, soft, Nov 23). KING'S BRIG (10-10) 15l 2nd of 5 finishers to Big Brown Bear (11-4) at Wolverhampton (3m ch, £1,713, good, Nov 26). VON TRAPPE, makes chasing debut (10-11) beat Run Leah Run (11-6) 3l at Warwick (2m 5f hdle, £3,267, good, Nov 17).
Selection: GOLDEN KNOLL.

2.0 BEECHES FARM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,147: 2m) (11)

2 430-000 LOR MOSS (D) (A Leighton) A Leighton 4-11-7 ... C Cox 5
3 0143-30 SHAW BROW (D) (Denys Smith) Denys Smith 4-11-5 ... P Richmond 7
7 0/00-00 RAPID LAD (D) (S Borsberry) J Spearing 6-11-1 ... W Hayes 3
8 0-44230 TOT (D) (T Gledson) Denys Smith 4-11-0 ... D Thompson 5
9 4244-p0 SPOTSYLVANIA (CD) (L Goddard) P Bevan 6-10-12 ... R Hatfield 5
10 0001/00 EYTON STREAKER (F Beddoes) K White 5-10-12 ... P Finch 5
13 p-04000 STAR ALLIANCE (D) (R Bates) R Morris 6-10-10 ... —
14 /4000-0 PRINCE REVIEWER (J Zochonis) A W Jones 6-10-7 ... S Earle 3
15 /fpp0-0 BARTON CROSS (A Watson) A Watson 10-10-7 ... G Wilson 7
17 p00-00 GOLDEN LEICESTER (P Wigham) P Wigham 8-10-7 ... —
19 00400/0 SPONSORED WALK (G Newman) B Shaw 7-10-7 ... T Pinfield 7

1983: Bold Illusion 5-10-6 G Evans (8-1) M Eckley 17 ran.

9-4 Shaw Brow, 11-4 Tot, 9-2 Spotsylvania, 6 Lor Moss, 8 Eyton Streaker, 10 Prince Reviewer, 20 others.

FORM: LOR MOSS, (10-12) 17th of 21 to Ensigne Kit (10-12) at Leicester, previously (10-3) 24l 5th to Pacifiste (11-5) over course and distance (£1,764, good to soft, Nov 21, 9 ran). SHAW BROW (10-12) 7th to A Sure Row (10-8) here with BARTON CROSS (10-7) 12th (2m 4f hdle, £979, soft, Nov 22, 16 ran). RAPID LAD, (10-9) 18th to Morning Line (11-4) at Hereford, earlier (10-4) 16l 5th to Dampier (10-0) at Taunton (2m 1f hdle, £1,470, soft, Nov 22, 19 ran). TOT, (11-8) 12l 6th to Islay Mist (10-8) soft, at Ayr, earlier (10-0) 1½l runner-up to Heresas (10-2) at Cartmel. STAR ALLIANCE (10-4) back in 10th (2m 1f hdle, £1,765, good, Sept 15, 13 ran).
Selection: TOT.

2.30 BURNLEY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,695: 3m 4f) (8)

2 2f-11u0 KUMBI (B) (A Lung) D McCain 8-11-7 ... K Doolan 4
3 001p-p0 NARVIK (Lady Cochrane) R Crump 11-10-12 ... —
4 300-201 KUDOS (D) (J Blundell) J Blundell 8-10-12 (4ex) ... D Dutton
5 1-u2031 BASHFUL LAD (CD) (Mrs F Pickles) M Oliver 9-10-11 (4ex) ... R Dunwoody
6 1/p-4020 WINNING BRIEF (M O'Grady) M Naughton 9-10-7 ... C Grant
7 1100-p0 [illegible] ... D Wilkinson
9 13-3402 COTTAGE RHYTHM (S Wood) Earl Jones 8-10-8 ... J D Doyle 4
10 12210a JIMMY MIFF [illegible] 12-10-0 ... C Mann

1983: Bush Guide 7-9-7 Miss V Alder (6-1) J Alder 11 ran.

11-8 Kumbi, 7-2 Kudos, 6 Bashful Lad, 8 Cottage Rhythm, 10 Winning Brief, 12 Jimmy Miff, 16 others.

FORM: KUMBI (10-0) prom to 18th when 25¾l 5th of 13 to Burrough Hill Lad (12-0) at Newbury (3m 2f ch, £14,081, soft, Nov 24). NARVIK (10-11) 41l 6th of 7 finishers to Hardy Lad (11-2) at Newcastle (3m ch, £2,560, heavy, Nov 17), when KUDOS (10-6) unseated rider 1st. KUDOS since (11-2) beat Donegal Prince (11-6) 3l at Market Rasen (3m ch, £2,247, soft, Nov 24, 5 ran). BASHFUL LAD (12-0) beat Oakprime (11-0) 5l at Ludlow (3m ch, £1,196, good, Nov 28, 5 m). WINNING BRIEF (10-0) 30½l 5th of 6 finishers to Little Polveir (10-0) at Sandown (3m 5f ch, £3,700, good to soft, Dec 1). COTTAGE RHYTHM (11-7) 1½l 2nd of 4 finishers to Mount Oliver (11-4) at Uttoxeter (3m 2f ch, £1,688, good, Nov 15), in which JIMMY MIFF (10-12) unseated rider half way when close 2nd.
Selection: KUDOS.

3.0 WIDNES SELLING HURDLE (£883: 2m 6f) (14)

1 p23410- BOMBIL (Mrs J Bissill) 5-11-0 ... J Bryan
2 00010-0 CAPTAIN OATES (Miss S Lavery) M James 5-11-0 ... Sharron James 7
3 0u-1200 HELSHAW GRANGE (J Knowles) J Blundell 5-11-0 ... D Dutton
4 00-0001 QUDESA (N Jones) C Tinkler 5-11-0 ... C Mann
5 20400-1 RUSSIAN SALAD (E Jones) F Jordan 5-11-0 ... R Hyett
6 0- BOUNTEOUS SPIRIT (B Bewick) J Townson 4-10-9 ... M Bowlby 7
7 000000- BROXTED BOY (J Carden) J Carden 5-10-9 ... Mr J Carden
8 00- CYNICAL SAM (R Frost) R Frost 5-10-9 ... J Frost
9 4300/10- HARLOW MILL (C Barnes) M Pipe 5-10-9 ... P Leach
10 p/0p004- MR CHOW (C Bridgett) C Bridgett 5-10-9 ... Mr C Bridgett
12 4f0-014 NOT EASY (C) (BF) (E Carter) E Carter 4-10-9 ... —
13 600200- RANDOMLY (M Thompson) D Morrill 5-10-9 ... J Duggan 4
14 9004/0- SAWYER'S SON (Mrs J Webster) Mrs P Rigby 5-10-9 ... —
16 f000-03 LEAWELL (J Dalton) J Dalton 5-10-4 ... —

1983: Technical Merit 4-10-2 P Scudamore (8-1) Mrs K Coulman 12 ran.

5-2 Russian Salad, 7-2 Qudesa, 9-2 Helshaw Grange, 6 Not Easy, 8 Harlow Mill, 10 Leawell, 12 Bounteous Spirit, 20 others.

FORM: CAPTAIN OATES (10-12) 32½l 5th of 6 to Bajan Sunshine (11-12) at Warwick (2m hdle, £2,069, good, Nov 17, 6 ran). HELSHAW GRANGE (10-4) 39l 6th to Virtiolic (10-0), earlier (11-6) 4l 2nd of 9 to Rigton Sally (10-9) at Market Rasen (3m hdle, £793, good to firm, Oct 19). QUDESA (11-0) beat Greenacres Joy (10-7) by 8l at Southwell (2m hdle, £530, heavy, Nov 26, 10 ran). RUSSIAN SALAD (11-0) beat High Barn (10-2) by 25l at Uttoxeter (2m 4f hdle £880, Dec 6, good to soft, 13 ran). NOT EASY (10-13) 32½l 4th to The Beginning (10-7), previously (11-4) beat Teucer (11-9) by 20l at Newcastle (2m hdle, £677, soft, Nov 16, 11 ran).
Selection: CAPTAIN OATES

3.30 GOLBORNE NOVICE HURDLE (3-y-o: £1,279: 2m) (17)

1 12 LIFE GUARD (Cherry Tree Stables) S T Harris 11-0 ... J Frost
5 0 ATKINSONS (T Metcalfe) R Hollinshead 10-7 ... J J O'Neill
6 BALMATT (A Proos) D McCain 10-7 ... K Doolan 4
7 0 BLACKWELL BOY (B) (Mrs M Lambert) M Lambert 10-7 ... P A Charlton
8 BURGUNDY STAR (Mrs J Leighton) A Leighton 10-7 ... C Cox 7
10 f0 COOPERS KING (J Cooper Ltd) G Balding 10-7 ... B Reilly
14 MIRAMAC (F Lee) F Lee 10-7 ... N Doughty
15 00p MISTER KILO (Mrs E Hughes) A W Jones 10-7 ... T Wall
16 0p MOHAR (B) (Miss C Bancroft) N Tinkler 10-7 ... N Tinkler
17 002 NICKY'S KNIGHT (C Bell) C A Bell 10-7 ... P Delaney 4
18 003230 ORVILLE'S SONG (Mrs J Leighton) A Leighton 10-7 ... C Cox 7
21 00 RIVER LUNE (D Sowerby) K Stone 10-7 ... A Brown
25 WARLEGGAN (C Dingwall) C Dingwall 10-7 ... R Crank
27 DOLLY COLE (J Bell) R Jeffrey 10-2 ... —
29 HARVEY'S CHOICE (Mrs B Shaw) B Shaw 10-2 ... D Chinn 7
30 0 ICACOS BAY (J Rimmer) E Alston 10-2 ... D Dutton
32 f MPEEPEE (Mrs E Fisher) R Fisher 10-2 ... J D Doyle 4

1983: Comedy Fair 10-7 J J O'Neill (6-5 fav) M H Easterby 16 ran.

2 Nicky's Knight, 5-2 Life Guard, 6 River Lune, 7 Atkinsons, 8 Blackwell Boy, 10 Coopers King, 12 Mpeepee, 20 others.

FORM: LIFE GUARD (11-3) 12l 2nd to Come On Gracie (10-12) at Devon (soft), previously (10-7) beat Champions Day (10-7) by 4l at Taunton with Come On Gracie (10-9) ¾l away 3rd (2m 1f hdle, £517, firm, Oct 4, 14 ran). NICKY'S KNIGHT (10-10) 1½l 2nd to Strathearn (11-3) at Leicester (2m hdle, £847, good to soft, Nov 30, 20 ran). ORVILLE'S SONG (11-0) 59l 6th to Freeflow (11-0) here (2m 4f), earlier (10-7) 3l 3rd to Mariners Dream (10-7) at Ludlow (2m hdle, £479, good to firm, Oct 3, 11 ran).
Selection: LIFE GUARD

Haydock results

1.0 (2m hdle) 1, BOLD RODERICK (N Coleman, 12-1); 2, Starshot (Mr D Swindlehurst, 10-1); 3, Sloane Street (M Pepper, 20-1); 4, Gold Floor (G Davies, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 2 fav Bowie Boy (p/u), 5-2 The Beginning (5th), 14 Bristol Blue, 16 Her Excellency, Severn Sound (fell), 20 Church Hall (p/u), Little Ginger (6th), Gala Lad, Kings Town, Measure Up, Gradwood, Forest Lodge, Channing Girl, Mullenan. 18 ran. 4l, 6l, 6l, 3l, 5l. D Burchell at Ebbw Vale. Tote: £9.20; £1.30, £3.20, £9.50, £14.60. DF: £90.90. CSF: £108.00. Tricast: £2,117.12.

1.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, VERY PROMISING (P Scudamore, 8-11 fav); 2, Comeriog (A Brown, 11-4); 3, Barryphillips Disco (P Tuck, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Geata An Uisce (4th), 14 Mr Denetop (6th), 25 Hy Tab (5th), 33 Gambling Abbot (fell), Mount St Mary's. 8 ran. 6l, sh hd, ¾l, 15l, 8l. D Nicholson at Stow on the Wold. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £1.10, £2.40. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.51.

2.0 (3m ch) 1, GAYE CHANCE (S Morshead, 7-4 fav); 2, Forgive N' Forget (M Dwyer, 3-1); 3, A Kinsman (T G Dun, 15-8). ALSO RAN: 11 Scot Lane (4th), 33 Armagnac Princess (5th), 50 Grey Warbler (p/u). 6 ran. 1l, 7l, 4l, 8l. Mrs M Rimell at Severn Stoke. Tote: £2.40; £1.20, £2.20. DF: £4.10. CSF: £6.63.

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, TRIPLE JUMP (P Scudamore, 12-1); 2, Gregon Trail (Mr T Thomson Jones, 5-1); 3, Crimson Knight (J Frost, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Asia Minor, 11-2 Corporal Clinger (5th), 6 Comedy Fair (6th), Primrose Wood, 10 Mayhem (4th), 16 High Ridge, Patrick's Fair, Ryecroft, 20 Simbad, 33 Lewis Homes, Unguarded. 14 ran. NR: Commonty. 4l, 3l, 1l, 5l. G Thorner at Wantage. TOTE: £22.10; £2.40, £1.70, £8.90. DF: £54.20. CSF: £71.88. TRICAST: £1,119.37.

3.0 (2m c h) 1, JO COLOMBO (S Morshead, 9-4); 2, Golden Friend (R Linley, 11-8 fav); 3, Fury Boy (P Scudamore, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Artimarval (fell). 4 ran. 5l, 2½l. Mrs W Sykes at Bishops Castle. TOTE: £3.00. DF: £2.20. CSF: £5.26.

3.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, CASSIO LIL (N Coleman, 7-1); 2, Inisharran (S Morshead, 1-2 fav); 3, Whats What (P Scudamore, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Strands of Gold, 16 Seatell, 20 Tartan Triumph, 25 Royal Laser, 33 Kamal Siddiq, 50 Backlog, Breezy Glen, Lucky Fen, More For England, Wintersiea, Winter Sovereign. 14 ran. NR: Bishops Royal, Candy Man. ¾l, ½l. D Burchell at Ebbw Vale. TOTE: £7.90; £1.70, £1.20, £1.70. DF: £5.10. CSF: £11.34. TOTE DOUBLE: £6.65. TREBLE: £83.50. PLACEPOT: £133.70.

Huntingdon

Good: Good

12.45 (2m hdle) 1, CALMACUTTER (R Arnott, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Bahrain Pearls (M Bowlby, 20-1); 3, Les Dancer (G Old, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 jt-fav Little Compo, 5 Valoroso, 7 Vagabond Victor, 8 Top Gold (4th), 9 Mosquito River (5th), Summercove (f), 12 High Barn, Julesian, Little Tyrant (6th), 25 Charles Boot (p/u), Sovereign Shot, 33 Doon Silver (ref). 15 ran. NR: Baton Match, Brennanstown. C James at Newbury. TOTE: £5.20, £2.60, £14.20, £2.70. DF: £93.30. CSF: £93.38. Tricast: £2,500.77, bought in 1,300gns.

1.15 (2m 4f) 1, OVERSWAY (S Smith Eccles, 7-2); 2, Southern Bird (J Akehurst, 12-1); 3, Postdyne (P Carvill, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 2 fav Mount Harvard (bd), 5 Sanhedrin (f), 8 Perhaps Lucky (f), Pieroth (6th), 10 Midsummer Special (f), 12 Wockmate (4th), 20 Bargill (5th), 25 The Royal Comrie (f), 50 Bucks Green (f), Celtic Way, Chevron Blue (p/u), Grange Minstrel (p/u), Reprieve. NR: Prudent Match, Three Bars. 6l, 6l, 1½l, 10l, ¾l. Mrs D Haine at Newmarket. TOTE: £3.30, £1.70, £2.90, £11.60. DF: £47.20. CSF: £48.04.

1.45 (3m hdle) 1, PELION (S Smith Eccles, 6-1); 2, Wye Lea (P Barton, 4-1 jt-fav); 3, Rigton Beau (A Webber, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 4 jt-fav Rigton Beau, 7 Mend It (5th), 8 Alfie Dickins (4th), Ankus, 9 A T S Prince, 12 Staggerers Lady, 14 Route March (6th), 16 Ziparib, 33 Colwey Boy, Gold Caste. 13 ran. NR: Toyco. 6l, 1l, 5l, 12l. J S King at Swindon. TOTE: £12.90, £5.90, £2.60, £5.20. DF: £45.50. CSF: £32.58. Tricast: £167.79.

2.15 (3m ch) 1, SELBORNE RAMBLER (A Webber, 4-1 jt-fav); 2, Assured (Miss S Lawrence, 5-1); 3, Sonny May (R Rowe, 4-1 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Suez (6th), 7 Seamus O'Flynn (U/R), 15 Lawn Meet (4th), 8 Buck And Wing (5th), 25 Sugarally (P/U), First Glance (P/U), 50 Fine Tale (P/U), 100 Poor Excuse. 11 ran. 6l, hd, 7l, 10l, 2l. J Webber at Banbury. TOTE: £3.30; £1.40, £4.50, £1.20. DF: £16.10. CSF: £23.34. TRICAST: £78.46.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, PHILNORM (P Croucher, 11-4 fav); 2, Kerry Jack (N Fearn, 100-30); 3, Hopeful Answer (J Duggan, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Ten Bears, 9 Doll Lars (5th), 10 Ring Lou (4th), 14 Smiling Cavalier, 20 Tompion (6th), 50 Nobleu, Dan Days. 10 ran. ½l, ½l, 6l, 6l, 1l. D Gandolfo at Wantage. TOTE: £2.50; £1.10, £1.70, £1.70. DF: £6.60. CSF: £12.05. TRICAST: £32.83. Kerry Jack fin 1st, with Philnorm 2nd following an objection by the second to the winner, and after a Stewards inquiry, the first two places were reversed.

3.15 (2m hdle) 1, TERRYASH (B Powell, 6-4); 2, Scotsmans Ice (R O'Leary, 11-8 fav); 3, Scottish Reward (G McCourt, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Marsh Lane, 12 Tooley Street, 25 Aerialeist, Firmament, Oliver Anthony, 40 Swift Retort, 50 Call On Dickins, Cheap Jack, Crushed Ice, Glotming, Golden Raider, Motivator, National Debt, Nelots Boy, Slave Lane, Special View, Start The Music, Driven Snow, Levant Row. 22 ran. 4l, 5l. Mrs J Pitman at Lambourn. TOTE: £3.60; £1.90, £1.00, £3.60. DF: £3.70. CSF: £4.39. PLACEPOT: £101.55.

● After a slow start to the season, Steve Smith-Eccles is now making up for lost time in great style. He landed a 30-1 double at Huntingdon yesterday on Oversway and Pelion, who gave him the 450th winner of his career.

Course specialists

HAYDOCK

TRAINERS: M Pipe 4 winners from 9 runners, 44.4%; R Fisher 6 from 66, 9.1%.
JOCKEYS: C Grant 7 winners from 50 rides, 14.0%; P Charlton 4 from 33, 12.1%.

SOUTHWELL

TRAINERS: J Webber 11 winners from 78 runners, 14.1%; J Harris 9 from 112, 8.0%; W Clay 14 from 179, 7.8%.
JOCKEYS: R Earnshaw 11 winners from 40 rides, 27.5%; R Lamb 12 from 73, 16.4%; S McNeill 8 from 74, 10.8%.

SOUTHWELL

GOING: Good to soft (hurdles), soft (chase).

12.45 CHRISTMAS PUDDING NOVICE CHASE (£712: 3m 110yd) (14 runners).

3 3300/30 ABO ACE (G Hubbard) R Champion 6-10-10 ... G McCourt
4 030033 COVENT GARDEN (B) (G Parton) W Clay 6-10-10 ... S J O'Neill
5 /0p-0fu CRICKET WOOD (I Herbert) H Wharton 6-10-10 ... P Tuck
6 00-f040 GOLD EPEE (B) (I Stungo) D Nicholson 6-10-10 ... P Scudamore
7 00000/0 KINGSLEY HOUSE (G Dawes) G M Moore 6-10-10 ... —
9 uu4000- MIGHTY RUN (J Walby) W A Stephenson 8-10-10 ... R Lamb
10 004-p30 RED DAVID (P Williams) A Potts 6-10-10 ... —
11 p2p02-3 SEVEN ACRES (B Owen) D Wintle 6-10-10 ... N Babbage 4
12 000 WOODSVRGH (M Stevens) Mrs P Stevens 6-10-10 ... S Keightley
13 000-p00 EXCLUDER (Mrs P W Harris) P W Harris 5-10-7 ... R Strange
14 LAKEFIELD (J Bukovets) J Bukovets 5-10-7 ... S Morshead
15 f10p-ff BAY FOREST (E Clarke) Mrs E Kennard 6-10-5 ... S McNeill
16 3uf3b2 FIRST AWARD (W Harrison-Allan) P Duggins 6-10-5 ... N Coleman 4
17 0-p DEVIL'S REACH (R Macaulay) O O'Neill 5-10-2 ... J Suthern

1983: Div I: Sea Splash 7-10-9 M Brennan (4-1) O Brennan 8 ran.
Div II: Just For The Crack 6-11-0 A Webber (5-4) K Bailey 9 ran.

11-4 Covent Garden, 7-2 Mighty Run, 5 Seven Acres, First Award, 8 Gold Epee, 10 Bay Forest, 12 Abo Ace, 16 others.

Southwell Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Covent Garden. 1.15 Sedge. 1.45 Kevinsfort. 2.15 Teenage Love. 2.45 Sir Gordon. 3.15 KILSYTH (nap).

By Michael Seely

1.45 KEVINSFORT (nap). 3.15 Kilsyth.

1.15 CHRISTMAS BOX SELLING HURDLE (3-y-o: £589: 2m) (13).

1 004 HIGHVIEW (D Ellis) P Bevan 10-12 ... S Morshead
2 JUST SPUD (J P Smith) J P Smith 10-12 ... K Burke 7
5 00p0 RAFFLES TOWER (Mrs J Curson) J Scallan 10-12 ... J McLaughlin
6 00 TORSKI (G Leatham) M W Easterby 10-12 ... P Tuck
7 00 BRIGHT CECILIA (B Edgeley) Miss L Bower 10-7 ... R Rowell
9 DECKY'S PRIDE (Mrs A Harris) J L Harris 10-7 ... Vicki Harris 7
10 0 DOWNTOWN FOXY (G Gout) D Ringer 10-7 ... S McNeill
11 0400 HELEN'S CHOICE (M Ripley) A Smith 10-7 ... J A Harris
13 u JACK'S FOLLEY (J South) J L Harris 10-7 ... G Williams 7
14 6 QUEENSBURY LIZ (Mrs D Carvalho) D Dale 10-7 ... A Carroll
15 2 SEDGE (S Squires) C Holmes 10-7 ... A Webb
16 0 SHINY CHADOR (Mrs P Alexander) D Weeden 10-7 ... K Townsend 7
17 00 TALLY TOO (T Williamson) J L Harris 10-7 ... S Johnson

1983: Cut'N Dry 11-3 S McNeill (1-2 fav) R Johnson 11 ran.

7-4 Sedge, 7-2 Helen's Choice, Highview, 11-2 Torski, 10 Tally Too, 14 Queensbury Liz, 16 others.

1.45 CHRISTMAS TREE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,364: 2m 74yd) (10).

1 012p-p3 VALE CHALLENGE (M Holmes) P Felgate 10-12-2 ... P Dever
2 3230-00 EVEN MELODY (CD) (S Lycett Green) N Crump 15-11-7 ... P Tuck
3 f22300- HILLY WAY (H Harpur-Crewe) P O'Connor 14-11-7 ... J D Davies 7
4 221043 GRANNIE'S PET (A Wiseman) D Gandolfo 9-11-3 ... R Earnshaw
5 0311-u2 KEVINSFORT (Mrs R Haggie) J Fitzgerald 6-11-2 ... M Dwyer
7 001/p4- ABBEY AVENUE (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-10-7 ... K Jones
8 344000 LITTLE TROUBLE (C Hitchings) C Hitchings 8-10-8 ... R Kington
10 034p4-0 DEAR REMUS (CD) (J Nicholson) J L Harris 12-10-0 ... J A Harris
11 /03000- TOM FARR (F Dever) F Dever 9-10-0 ... A Webber
12 4000-0p RIDARRAGH (A L Fisher) A Fisher 10-10-0 ... D Fisher

1983: Even Melody 14-11-7 C Hawkins (14-1) N Crump 15 ran.

15-8 Kevinsfort, 3 Grannie's Pet, 9-2 Hilly Way, 7 Vale Challenge, 8 Even Melody, 12 Abbey Avenue, 14 other.

2.15 CHRISTMAS PARTY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICE HURDLE (£748: 2m) (16).

1 0- ARCHIMBOLDO (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-0 ... J O'Gorman
2 00- CAMBRIDGE BAY (S Mear) S Mear 7-11-0 ... —
4 00-0 LUCKY CHOICE (J Turner) M Hinchliffe 5-11-0 ... T Gibson 5
13 44220-0 SIR BLESSED (Swift Racing Services) R J Williams 5-11-0 ... R Arnott
14 WOLVERBEE (D Nugent) D Nugent 4-11-0 ... P Croucher
20 3- CONSCRIPTION (C Rowles Nicholson) J Leigh 4-10-11 ... P Blackburn
21 0 GUN-CARRIAGE (Mrs G Jones) A W Jones 4-10-11 ... —
23 p MR ROSE (B Bates) L Lightbrown 4-10-11 ... K Sims
24 0 ORYX MINOR (R Trumper) S Mellor 4-10-11 ... G Charles-Jones
28 00 STAY SHARP (T W Suiter & Son) B Richmond 4-10-11 ... P Corrigan
29 0 TEENAGE LOVE (Mrs A Starkie) Mrs M Dickinson 4-10-11 ... J D Davies
31 00 TRACK RHYTHM (Miss J Chater) J Webber 4-10-11 ... M Jenkins
35 p TRANSONIC (Mrs M Thompson) R Thompson 5-10-9 ... D Chinn
37 BROWN SANDS (A Cooke) G Vergette 4-10-6 ... A Wright
39 MASIOWOOD (M Griese) J Jefferson 4-10-6 ... M Hill
40 WILL BE WANTON (H Dale) H Dale 4-10-6 ... Susan Wilson

1983: Aonoch 4-11-6 J Duggan (4-11 fav) R Fisher 15 ran.

13-8 Teenage Love, 7-2 Sir Blessed, 5 Conscription, 13-2 Oryx Minor, 10 Stay Sharp, Track Rhythm, 14 Archimboldo, 16 others.

2.45 CHRISTMAS STOCKING HANDICAP CHASE (£1,004: 3m 110yd) (6).

2 2422-4u SIR GORDON (D Sanger) D Nicholson 7-11-7 ... P Scudamore
3 2242/4- ABERVANTER (C) (D Todd) D Todd 7-11-2 ... K Jones
4 p20 BROWN LUSTRE (Mrs A Lowe) R Armytage 8-11-0 ... A Webber
6 0000-a0 BALLYGROOBY (T Wragg) R Perkins 7-10-12 ... Dai Williams
8 4/4pp-0 ROYAL CLASSIC (CD) (R Savery) D Wintle 7-10-0 ... A Carroll
11 b4p/p0p CAMBRO BOY (B) (H Insley) W Clay 8-10-0 ... J O'Neill

1983: Mr Snugfit 6-11-12 P Tuck (5-1) M W Easterby 12 ran.

9-4 Brown Lustre, 11-4 Sir Gordon, 4 Abervanter, 6 Ballygrooby, 8 Royal Classic, 25 Cambro Boy.

3.15 CHRISTMAS CAKE HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,318: 2m 4f) (18).

1 2/00-00 GLENHAWK (CD) (Express Newspapers Ltd) M Ryan 8-12-3 ... G McCourt
2 0300/pp LE GRAN BRUN (Mrs A Pollard) S Cole 6-11-10 ... R Strange
3 1/3-0 MISS GOLDEN EYES (Mrs M Coyle) B McMahon 7-11-10 ... —
6 3/142-4 THE IRISH RHINE (D) (D A Wilson) D A Wilson 6-11-1 ... Steve Knight
7 4-04430 PADYKIN (B Carlos) G Morgan 4-11-0 ... S Johnson
8 /0000-0 KASLAND (Mrs J Pelly) Miss L Bower 7-11-0 ... R Rowell
13 pp/p004 HOPEFUL SHOT (R Bennett) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-12 ... M Bastard
14 01400-0 PRINCESS HENHAM (J Smith) N Callaghan 4-10-10 ... J Suthern
15 2210-p0 BLUE TAROUIN (B) (Col Sir P Houldsworth) J Fitzgerald 5-10-10 ... M Dwyer
16 324-322 MERA KID (BF) (R Sisson) W Clay 5-10-9 ... S J O'Neill
19 100-000 POLISH (R Brockhouse) J Spearing 6-10-8 ... —
20 2000-2 CRAMMOND BRIGG (W Jackson) M W Easterby 7-10-7 ... P Tuck
21 342/up- MALICIOUS RED (D) (H Pickering) J Leigh 8-10-7 ... P Blackburn 7
22 0-460p1 KILSYTH (V Guy) D Burchell 5-10-6 ... P Croucher 4
24 010-004 FEELS RIGHT (D) (Sheikh Amin Dahlawi) D Nicholson 4-10-4 ... P Scudamore
25 2000f1 NARSINH (St Claude Racing Stables) L Lightbrown 6-10-4 ... K Sims 7
27 024212/ COLE PORTER (M Banks) M Banks 9-10-2 ... S McNeill
28 440050 NOBLE WAY (Safety In Construction Ltd) M Chapman 4-10-1 ... P Liddle 7

1983: Crowecopper 4-8-8 P Dever (14-1) B Preece 18 ran.

4 Crammond Brig, 5 Glenhawk, Hopeful Shot, 6 Kilsyth, 7 The Irish Rhine, 9 Narsinh, Padykin, 12 Feels Right, 14 others.







General Appointments

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LONDON/MANCHESTER **c. £18,000**

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To discover more about a Police career, and salary levels contact your Careers Adviser or send in this coupon. But don't delay.

Final closing date for applications is 25th January 1985.

To Supt. John Harris BA, Room 553, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT. Please send me your new booklet on Careers for Graduates in the Police.

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T 13/12

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Salary £9,500 (index-linked).

For application form and job specification contact: The Personnel Officer, Amnesty International, International Secretariat, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 8DJ, or ring 01-833 1771, ext. 5145/6.

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms 4th January, 1985.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Steel Wire Fencing
Monopoly Investigation

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, has asked the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to investigate the supply of steel wire fencing in the United Kingdom, and determine whether a monopoly situation exists.

The inquiry will look into all aspects of the steel wire fencing market including the distribution and pricing policies related to the products.

If you – or any organisation to which you belong – have any evidence or views likely to help the Commission in their inquiry please write to:

The Secretary,
Monopolies and Mergers Commission,
New Court, Carey Street, London, WC2A 2JT.

Universiteit van Amsterdam

The Department of Mathematics of the University of Amsterdam invites applicants for the position of

Professor of mathematical logic (m/f)

with tenure.
Vacancynumber T. 8762.

Applicants should have an extensive knowledge of and research experience in the field of mathematical logic and its applications, as evidenced by a doctoral thesis and papers in refereed journals. A proven interest in applications of logic, also outside mathematics, is required.

Duties include:
- teaching of mathematical logic to students in mathematics, computer science and philosophy
- participation in and conducting, stimulating and co-ordinating research in mathematical logic and its applications in computer science and philosophy of language
- participating in administration and organization on behalf of the Logic Group and the Department of Mathematics
- promotion of interdisciplinary co-operation.

Applicants must be willing to acquire a sufficient working knowledge of the Dutch language, within two years of taking up the appointment.

The Logic Group ("Vakgroep Logica en Grondslagen van de Wiskunde") is part of both the Department of Mathematics and the Department of Philosophy. There exists a special research group "Logic and Philosophy of Language". Research subjects of the Logic Group are: Constructivism, Intensional logic, Set theory and Model theory, Logical semantics and Pragmatics. Research in Theoretical Computer Science is carried out in the Department of Computer Science. The appointee is expected to extend his own research specialism in collaboration with the present staff in the departments mentioned above.

The appointment will be made in the Faculty of Sciences ("Faculteit der Wiskunde en Natuurwetenschappen") and also in the Department of Philosophy ("Centrale Interfaculteit").

Gross salary depends on age and experience and ranges from Dfl. 6,364.- to Dfl. 9,005.- per month (Dutch Civil Servants Code).

Applicants are requested, quoting vacancynumber, to send a curriculum vitae, list of publications and the names of three references – before January 15th – to the Chairman of the Appointments Committee, Prof. Dr. A.S. Troelstra, Department of Mathematics, University of Amsterdam, Roetersstraat 15, 1018 WB Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Telephone 20-522 2298 / 522 3081.

Women in particular are invited to apply.

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INTERNATIONAL Museum Planning Research & Design Consultancy requires experienced Word Processor Operator/Secretary. Excellent English vital. Work will involve initially putting on disc large quantity of editorial drafts, thereafter assisting with revision. Also routine correspondence reports, filing etc. Salary c. £7,500. Tel: William Facey on 01-589 3422.

La crème de la crème

also on page 26

Receptionist
£7,500 pa

Young firm of Technical Publishers with retail side in W2 area require lively, intelligent person to operate switchboard, sell books, answer customer queries and generally ensure the smooth running of an office. 'A' levels and typing essential.

Contact Caroline Lees on
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Tel: 01-606-1611

Senior Secretaries
Recruitment Consultants

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS REQUIRED

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR. Lady, 50, offers assistance cooking, domestic chores. 0451 20045.

LIVE-IN NANNY/GOVERNESS sought for 2 boys 6 & 7 yrs in N. London. Experience & driving essential. Please write with cv and photograph c/o Mrs J. McGirk, Tails House, 25 Hedden St, London, W1.

FEMALE CD DIRECTOR mid 30s, educated, responsible, house proud, wishes to house mind in central London for up to six months while looking for own flat. Phone, 370 1672/1932 day.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

SPECIAL PERSON

male or female for Kensington family, who don't want conventional nanny, to give long-term help with 2 boys, 9 months & 5½ years. Daily basis but accommodation available if necessary. Must be flexible, car driver, reasonably familiar with London, non-smoker, ultra clean, willing to share, care and fit in with our standards. Any nationality but good English essential. Generous salary.

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Send resume to Box 1219 W The Times.

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56/58 Putney High Street, London SW15 1SF.

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RESIDENT HOUSEKEEPER/COOK needed immediately for partially disabled lady in comfortable Chelsea flat. Tel: 589 5028.

TOWN & COUNTRY-LOVING Housekeeper required by London-based fashion designer and family with 2 daughters, 12 years & 16 years. Must be able to cook for family and drive. Salary negotiable. Tel: 328 2612. evgs.

WORKING COUPLE need loving reliable NNEB nanny to live-in, North London, to care for Edward, 2 and new baby due mid Jan. Car driver, non-smoker. Tel: Edna Weather on 01-808 1106 (9 am-5 pm) or 01-340 5662 (after 7 pm).

WE NEED Caring adaptable live-in NNEB nanny. From Jan 1 to look after Edward (2) & new baby due mid Jan. Phone Edna Weather 01-808 1106 between 9.00 - 5.00 340 5662 after 7.00 & weekends.

WORLD'S LARGEST Au Pair Bureau offers M/helps, Doms, all live-in staff. UK & Overseas. Au Pair Agency Ltd, 87 Regent St, W1. 01-439 6534.

General Appointments

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If you're a graduate in your mid twenties to early thirties, and you want to know more about our opportunities throughout the UK, phone or write to Kate Dawson, Recruitment Officer, IBM United Kingdom Limited, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL. Tel: 01-995 1441 extension 4976. Please quote ref: T/11940



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- Two manufacturing plants
- Development laboratory near Winchester
- An equal opportunity employer
- £745 million exports in 1983
- £146 million invested in UK in 1983

IBM

Managing Director

Waterlow Publishers Limited

After considerable investment this prestigious publishing company is ready for further development and consolidation of recent growth.

Waterlow is London based and active in the financial, legal and professional world and has a diverse list of products which includes the Solicitors and Barristers Directory and Diary, the R.I.C.S. yearbook "Financial Weekly," "Banking World" and a range of books, legal software and law forms. It also provides a law agency service and holds the *Law Courts printing contract.*

The successful candidate will –

- be experienced in product development through marketing and sales
- be aware of electronic publishing's potential
- have production experience of, or involvement with, a significant print-production budget
- have experience of marketing and managing new products at a senior level and wide publishing experience in relevant markets
- be able to establish and achieve strict internal budgeting objectives

A competitive remuneration package with a salary range between £20,000 and £30,000 is available.

Applications should specifically address these needs, show how they are met and be addressed to:– Peter Bouch, at



British Printing & Communication Corporation PLC
Headington Hill Hall
Oxford OX3 0BW

Investment Executive

Glasgow **c. £18,000**

VENTURE CAPITAL AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

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Apply in writing quoting post reference number TI/INV12 to:
David Swift,
Staff Executive,
Scottish Development Agency,
120 Bothwell Street,
Glasgow G2 7JP.

All applications must be submitted within 10 days of the appearance of this advertisement.
Open to male and female applicants.

Scottish Development Agency

High Finance Prospects

If you're a qualified accountant, business graduate, or hold another relevant qualification, and are interested in joining a company which can offer you unlimited scope for career development and for exercising all your skills and talents, IBM UK believe they have the answer.

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At our UK headquarters in Portsmouth, we have a strong team of finance professionals who provide all the technical knowledge and expertise we require to maintain the highest rates *of growth and success. With a far-reaching influence into all aspects of the company's work,* they are close to the centre of our operations and are well-placed to contribute to our continued development in a rapidly expanding industry. Several excellent opportunities have now arisen for ambitious men and women to join us in the following areas:

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Our energetic Internal Audit Department offers a great deal of scope, embracing all functions of the company. You'll be able to gain invaluable experience in the management and control systems we operate. There will also be some travel to other IBM locations within the UK.

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Please write, enclosing a comprehensive c.v., to Valerie Witts in the Personnel Department at IBM United Kingdom Limited, PO Box 41, North Harbour, Portsmouth, Hants PO6 3AU.



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Director-South UK

location-Watford to £26,000 +bonus+car

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We require a Director to take full responsibility for our business in the Southern UK.

Please write with full details of your career to date, and information on how you qualify for this unique opportunity, to Mr J A Cleary, TIP Trailer Rental, Star House, 69/71 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts WD1 1DQ.



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To join the television news team reporting events in Wales for the nightly programme *Wales Today,* the network bulletins of BBC television news when required and occasionally for networked current affairs programmes and BBC Wales regional news and current affairs programmes on radio and television. We are looking for an energetic journalist of presentable appearance, preferably with broadcasting experience, who can work quickly and accurately under pressure. We need someone with bright ideas and initiative, a good understanding of current affairs in Wales, the ability to cover events in the field using PSC cameras as well as reporting in the studio, a good microphone voice and current driving licence. A knowledge of, and interest in, sport would be desirable.

Salary £13,940 — £18,094 plus allowance of £916 p.a. Two year contract. Based Cardiff.

Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 3810/T and enclose s.a.e.): BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-927 5799.

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To 45 **c£23,000**

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The new Director will be responsible to the Managing Director for the total marketing and sales activity. Reporting to him there is a Sales Manager responsible for branded sales and an account management team on retailer brands. As a member of the top management team, he will play a major role in developing the company's forward strategy. He will need to improve the company's marketing competence, direct the already excellent branded sales operation and lead and improve retailer brand. Candidates must have had both good brand marketing and national accounts management experience. Familiarity with retailer brand, including product development, would be a decided advantage and some field sales management background would be helpful. Prospects are excellent. There are the usual large company benefits including a 2.3 litre car and generous relocation expenses where appropriate.

Please reply, in confidence, to

BURLINGTON SELECTION
New Bond Street House
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The position is open to men and women

Social Work Service Deputy Director

£26,905

The Social Work Service is a professional service which contributes to the development of policy in DHSS and exercises important functions in relation to agencies providing personal social services. Action is in hand to extend the present inspectorial role of the Service.

The post-holder, one of two Deputy Directors, will manage and provide professional leadership to the operations of SWS at Headquarters and in Regions. The post is based in London, at Alexander Fleming House.

Candidates should preferably possess a university degree and a qualification in social work. Substantial experience is necessary at high level in organisations concerned with the personal social services.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 11 January 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6415/3.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Department of Health and Social Security

HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

At-home guide to languages

Clare Raffael discusses the choices and courses available to the busy executive who needs to learn another language

"The only way to learn a language is by going to the country, and living there". I was told by one teacher of 12 years' experience. Most of his colleagues broadly agree, but unfortunately this is not always a practical or possible method. Businessmen are in a particularly invidious position in this respect since, while the requirement for additional languages becomes more urgent, they have less and less time in which to learn them, and a year's sabbatical to learn Mandarin or Urdu is usually out of the question.

There are many options open to the busy executive. For the majority a crash course of individual tuition followed by frequent use of the language (it's important to keep practising) seems to work best. Companies like Linguarama, Language Studies Limited and The Executive Language Centre cater for this market. All these schools, using the famous "Berlitz" inspired "direct method" (only the target language is used during tuition) stress the need for a knowledge of the grammar and structure of the language, although this is usually very informally taught.

All stress that the language learning process is highly personal, and structure their courses around the individual.

In contrast to *Linguarama*, and Language Studies Limited, The Executive Language Centre is a small school set up nine years ago and now run by Mrs Arend-Osborn, an enterprising Frenchwoman and originally herself a language teacher. They never have more than 10 students.

Direct method pack

Tuition is limited to six hours a day, any more is self-defeating Mrs Arend-Osborn says. She is also unenthusiastic about two people learning together explaining that it is no less expensive since the whole process takes longer. John Burkitt of Linguarama strongly advises husbands and wives against learning together. Apparently familiarity breeds, if not contempt, then at least a lack of the polite patience of comparative strangers.

Of the three schools only Language Studies uses Video as a teaching aid, and other aids used depend to a large extent on the teacher (or teachers, both Linguarama and Language Studies give you a new teacher for the second half of the day). Another company, Stillitron, sells a comprehensive system which combines a number of hours of individual tuition with a kind of home learning pack. This consists of a set of cassettes and an illustrated "direct method" publication which is used in conjunction with a "world-patented, nickel-plated, printed-circuit response-analyser."

This is actually quite a simple and effective device which enables you to go through the multiple-choice questions in the book without having to go through the awkward business of looking up the answers, and as many times as you need. The gadget flashes alarmingly red for a wrong answer and green for a correct one. The home learning pack alone costs £390. Individual tuition costs vary dramatically from school to school and it really *is* worth shopping around with an eye to cost as well as suitability.

Group learning is a cheaper alternative. It may be less convenient and slow learners can hold up a group, but it does introduce an additional competitive motivation and gives the student a standard against which to measure his progress. The BOL 450 beginners residential courses run by the London Chamber of Commerce are a good example. They are based on a teaching technique first developed by Professor Boland putting the group situation to advantage as much as possible and involving frequent changes of activity to maintain concentration and interest. In six days most students will have picked up a basic vocabulary of 450 words. Courses are run at regular intervals throughout the year and cost £595 exclusive of VAT.

Individuals who must foot their own bills may find it difficult to afford these commercial rates. For those who wish to learn German there are the subsidised courses run by the Goethe-Institute, based in major cities throughout England. I tried a Saturday morning course which was excellent and very lively. The Insitute also runs evening courses, but, bear in mind concentration after a hard day's work is difficult. The intense courses are probably the best, and the Institute runs four week courses throughout the year which cost £60. Other cultural institutes and societies run similarly subsidised courses.

Some very good courses are run by the Polytechnics at a thoroughly reasonable price. Their credentials are impeccable of course, a point worth noting since the commercial sector of the field has earned a reputation, less true now, of being a happy hunting ground for less than reputable outfits. The Polytechnic of the South Bank has an impressive four stage method using a language laboratory, video cassettes, a micro computer and individual sessions with a tutor. For much of the time the student is teaching himself with the help of machines. This makes the system more flexible and effective but it does require discipline and determination.

Curiously, none of the commercial schools uses micro computers which are an effective aid to learning, particularly for business users. Employed ILEA residents pay £50 for 100 hours attendance taken within a year of enrolment. Unemployed people and pensioners who are resident in the ILEA pay £1.

Tipping the scales

Finally, for those with a basic knowledge which just needs brushing up so that they can confidently ask a taxi driver to take them to a petrol station, give directions, and then know how much to tip, the BBC Get By In tapes and books are the instant solution. They cost between £5 and £10 and are available by mail order or in bookshops.

As executive travel increases, and overseas markets become more competitive, languages as a skill will become more important. It may be becoming easier to manage with English only, but due to this very fact, knowledge of a language will tip the scales in the favour of the job candidate, the salesman or the manager.

Information available from the Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research (CILT); (01-486 8221) and ask for information guide 8.

● *For details of business language courses, send a SAE to: Careers Horizons,* The Times, *PO Box 7, LONDON WC1X 8EZ*

General Appointments



A challenging position – offering a secure position with increasing remuneration

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35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON, EC2M 1NH.
TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-638 9216.

*Please only contact us if you are applying for the above position.

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USA

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We are seeking an enthusiastic executive (preferred age 27-40) to join small HQ of national governing body of men's hockey in England; the job includes standing in for the Secretary General and responsibility for running national competitions and home internationals.

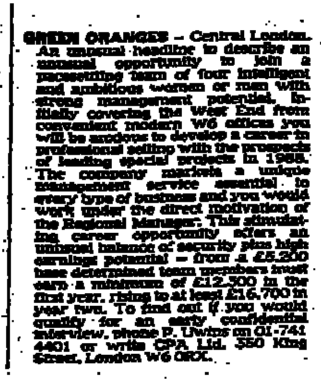
The successful candidate will have proven ability in executive administration in which attention to detail will have been important. Experience in office organization and method is required, experience in computers and book-keeping is an advantage.

The ability to communicate with people and a good sense of humour are vital attributes.

Application forms available from:
The Hockey Association, 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0QD or 01-387 9315 before 19th December.
Completed forms will be considered on 3rd January 1985.

PUBLISHER
needs freelance research assistant for one month's project to carry out telephone survey of industrial companies. Neat handwriting essential. Applicants will be working from home using their own telephone (expenses refunded). There is positively no selling involved but you must be able to talk intelligently and express yourself clearly. High earning potential related to factual information gained from phone calls to list of companies supplied.
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digital

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ALL AREAS aged 23-40. You will have been trained in any of the above industries and above all – YOU CAN SELL. You also will have a good level of academic and other achievements.

These appointments are open to men and women. They call for a great deal of dedication, enthusiasm, initiative, self-motivation and HARD WORK. We need above-average people who do not understand the meaning of "9 to 5". Rewards. A negotiable salary, non-contributory pension scheme, car and other large-company benefits.

If you think you qualify, please send C.V. or telephone for application form to Personnel Manager, Electropatent Limited, Pier Road, North Feltham Trading Estate, FELTHAM, TW14 0TW. Tel. No. 01-890 8142.

You'll have to be good to be considered.

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Applications setting out details of your career to date, and showing how you match our requirements, should reach us by 10 January 1985 and be addressed to:

The Editorial Director
Industrial Relations Services
67 Maygrove Road,
London NW6 2EJ.

IRS

ibp INTERNATIONAL SALES AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

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Albany Courtyard
London W1V 9AH



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Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.00am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, on Saturday between 9.00am and 12.00noon. (837 3311 only). For publication the following day, phone by 1.30pm.

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O WRETCHED MAN that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 7: 24.25.

BIRTHS

ABRAM – On December 10th, at The John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Elizabeth (nee Pracy) & Martin – a daughter (Polly).

ANDREWS – On December 8, to Rachel (nee Wroth) and Stuart, a second son, Joseph Christopher.

BELCHER – On December 11th, 1984, to Teresa (neé Smith) and Roger, a son, Thomas John Kemp.

CASSEL – On December 12, to Vivien and Jeremy a daughter

HILLYARD – On December 10th to Jane and David a daughter Arabella a sister for Caroline, Amy and Charlotte.

HODGKINSON – On December 11th, at Colchester Maternity Hospital to Sarah (nee Robertson) and George, a son (Robert John), a brother for Katie and Mark.

MACKIE – On December 8 at Kings College Hospital, to Philippa (née Coates) and Bill, a son, (James Stephen) a brother for Nicholas.

MITCHELL – On December 8, born to Lesley (née Cherry) and Ben (youngest son of Marion and Arthur) a son, Oliver Arthur, first great grandson of Laura Olive Roberts.

MOSS – On December 10th, at Westminster Hospital, London, to Shawna (née McSwiney) & Jolyon, a daughter (Sophie).

PARKER – On December 6th, in Curacao, to Amanda (nee de Boinville) & Alastair, a son, Charles Hugo Yarborough.

PIGOTT – On November 28th, at BMH Munster, to Felicity (nee Astley-Cooper) and Anthony, a daughter (Anna Louisa).

SUBERY. – On December 11 at St Teresa's Wimbledon to Rachel (née Kurlony) and Philip, a son, Henry Philip Michael Nicholas, a brother for Georgina.

RYDER – To Annie (neè Hadfield) and Tim a beautiful son, Benjamin Robin, on 7th December at St Marys Hospital Manchester.

SUTTON. – On 8th December 1984 to Tiggy (née Dewey) and Robert, a son, Patrick William.

WALDEGRAVE – On December 12, in London to Caroline, wife of William, a son.

WYBAR. – on 11th December to Ann (neé Stevenson) and David, a daughter, Kirsty Ann.

BIRTHDAYS

FRANK WILCOCKSON is 40 today. A very happy birthday from Sharon and Bruno.

DEATHS

BAIN. – On December 11, peacefully at home, Leila Louise, dearest and beloved mother of Annabel, Stuart and Pammy. Dearly loved grandmother of Victoria and Charles and mother-in-law of Mary and Tony. Funeral Hampstead Parish Church, Church Row, NW3 on Monday 17th December at 3pm.

BARRATT. – On 11th December, peacefully at home, Barry, beloved husband of Maureen and father of Katia, Nickey, Dominic and Rachel. Funeral service Monday, 17th December at St Edmund's Church, Beckenham at 11 am. and afterwards at Elmers End Cemetery at 12 pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation.

BOSTOCK. – On Friday, December 7, Alice Marion Eva Bostock, B.A. (Oxon), well into her 79th year. Loved and loving wife of Edward, mother of David, Ann, Roland and Hugh. Many times grandmother. A former mayoress of Twickenham; a founder member of the Twickenham branch of the United Nations Association and of the Twickenham-Barnes & Richmond branch of CRUSE. Until recently a supporter of many local societies. Peacefully at home in her sleep, without pain she gently moved onto the next world. Funeral service at St Mary's Parish Church, Church Street, Twickenham, on Friday, December 14, at 11.30am; followed by burial at Richmond Cemetery. Family flowers only but by her special wish donations in lieu if desired to UNICEF (United Nations Childrens Fund), 55 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3NB.
Enquiries please to T K Sanders & Sons, 28 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey. 01-948 1561

CAMERON – On December 8, 1984, at University Hospital, London, Ontario, Canada, Mark Alan Shaw Cameron, beloved husband of the late Olive Cameron, dearly loved son of James Munro and Vera Cameron, and brother of Bridget Neumayr. Professor of Ancient – Art History, Visual Art Department University of Western Ontario. A requiem mass was celebrated on December 12, at St Peters Cathedral Basilica, London, Ontario.

CARTER. – On December 9, 1984, after a long illness, Ruth Carter, aged 49, wife of John and mother of Colin and Judith. Service at St Jude's, Englefield Green, at 2.30pm, followed by cremation at Woking at 3.20pm, Friday, December 14. Flowers to F. Harrison & Son 40 Harvest Road, Englefield Green, or donations to Help The Aged.

CHALLIS. – On 10th December, after a long illness bravely borne, Cecil Edward dearly loved husband of Jessie. Very sadly missed by all

EDE. – On December 10th at home, Catherine Whitmore Ede, widow of Bertram Ede. Funeral, Monday, December 17th, 10.30, at Holy Cross Church, Ramsbury. Family flowers only please.

FREEMAN. – On December 8th 1984, peacefully after a long illness...

DEATHS

TAYLOR. – Tragically on December 10, following a racing accident in Hong Kong, Brian Taylor, of Willingham Green Stud, Brinkley, Newmarket. Father of Jane, Kate and Brian junior. Funeral, All Saints Church, Newmarket, 1pm, December 19. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Injured Jockeys Fund, PO Box 9, Newmarket.

TEUTEN – GEOFFREY CHARLES. Peacefully after a long illness most bravely borne. He will be sadly missed but remembered with love and affection by his wife Sonia, children Nicola, Jayne and Peter, grandson Charles, sister Peggy and all his family and friends. Funeral private. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to Cancer Research. Memorial Service to be announced later.

THOMPSON. – On 9th December at Thames Ditton in her 96th year, Rachel Ellen Thompson (née Holmes) widow of Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. F. Thompson, D.S.O., of Nunwick Hall, Penrith, Cumbria, dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Cremation private. Memorial service to be announced later.

WARRINER. – On December 11th Renee Kathleen peacefully at Lime Trees Cottage, Boughton, Monchelsea, Kent. Beloved wife of W. G. (Peter) Warriner, mother of Andrew and Peter MacBean, after a long illness patiently and fightingly borne. Service on Friday December 14th at 2pm at Boughton, Monchelsea, cremation 3pm Vinters Park Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations if desired to British Cancer Research Foundation.

WIXCEY, GRADYS EDITH of 175, Gilbert Road, Cambridge, peacefully at Arthur Rank House on Sunday 9th December after a long illness, aged 72. Much loved wife of the late John Wixcey and devoted mother of Amanda and Charles. Funeral service will be at The Emmanuel United Reformed Church, Trumpington Street, Cambridge on Wednesday December 19th at 12.45 p.m. followed by private committal at the Cambridge Crematorium. No flowers please, donations in her memory to the Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CRAW – A memorial service for the late Henry A. Craw of Greenways, Sutton Place, Abinger Hammer, Dorking will be held in St Columba's Pont Street, SW1 on Wednesday December 19 at 3pm. All friends welcome.

MACKESON – SANDBACH. A memorial service for Graham Lawrie who died on November 23rd will be held at The Cathedral, St Asaph, Clwyd, North Wales on Saturday, December 15th at 2.30 p.m

IN MEMORIAM (WAR)

2ND BATTALION, THE RIFLE BRIGADE. – In memory of the 40th anniversary of all those who fell in the battle for Tossignano on the night of December 12/13, 1944. They will always be remembered. – Captain J. (Nat) Pinkus

IN MEMORIAM

ANDREWS. – In loving memory of my husband Christopher, who died on December 13th, 1979. – Valerie, Robert and Susan.

CANDY, WILLIAM. – In ever-loving memory from Freda, Julian, Judith and Jennifer.

JOHNSON, Samuel. Died 13th December 1784 at his home in Bolt Court, Fleet Street. Poet, critic, lexicographer, essayist, journalist, Christian, wit. 'The chief glory of every people arises from its authors'. The Johnson Society.

LANDAU, FREDERICK ANTHONY. December 13th, 1949 – May 6th, 1974. – Remembered today and every day with love and gratitude.

PERCIVAL, Stephen John. Pilot Officer R.A.F. died 13th December, 1983. Always in our thoughts, Michael, Paul and Christine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE MILLION WOMEN. Please send to the Appeals Office, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, 9 Belgrave Mews South, London SW1X 8BW, your £5 Anniversary Gift in tribute to Marie Curie, the remarkable woman scientist who died 50 years ago but whose researches today still benefit mankind in the field of cancer therapy.

UNAFFILIATED Organisation undertaking research for the International Decade for Women 1985. Would like to hear from celibate career women who feels this decision has helped in professional advancement or personal life. (Please write in complete confidence) To Box No. 2884W The Times.

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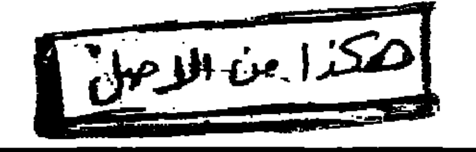
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.59; sport at 6.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; plus the Breakfast Time doctor and Glynn Christian's Christmas cooking hints between 8.30 and 9.00.
9.05 Taking Sides. The subject for this week's radiovision discussion is health. Among those taking part are Christopher Robbins formerly of the Coronary Prevention Unit, Dr Noel Dilly and Rosie Boycott who has written a book about fasting 10.00 Ceefax. 10.30 Play School (r) 10.50 Ceefax.
12.30 News After Noon. 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles)
1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes Leslie Kenton's guide to positive health. Paul Coia watches the new BBC comedy series The Front Line being made, and Howard Franklin demonstrates how to make the most of Christmas floral decorations 1.45 Fingerbobs.
2.00 The Afternoon Show presented by Penny Junor and Barbara Dickson. The programme includes items on immunization and holidays in the sun for pensioners. Plus a profile of retired trade union leader, Jack Jones 2.40 Beauty is in the Eye. A Sri Lankan girl prepares for her wedding (r).
2.50 War at Sea. The story of the Battle of the Atlantic (r). 3.40 Cartoon. 3.48 Regional news (not London).
3.50 Play School, presented by Carol Leader 4.10 SuperTed. 4.15 Jackanory. David Baxt reads part four of the Cybil War 4.30 Laurel and Hardy.
4.35 Screen Test. Competitors from Argyll and Cornwall in the final of the cinematic recall contest, introduced by Mark Curry 4.55 John Craven's Newsround. 5.05 Blue Peter introduces a baby great palm cockatoo that is incredibly ugly (Ceefax) 5.30 Henry's Cat. 5.35 Grange Hill. Episode 15 (r) (Ceefax) 5.58 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 London Plus.
6.55 Tomorrow's World includes a demonstration of a new bicycle tyre that will never go flat.
7.20 Top of the Pops presented by Peter Powell and Steve Wright
8.00 The Front Line. Comedy series about a Rastafarian and his half-brother who, tonight, tells him of his intention of joining the police force.
8.30 Zoo 2000. Are national parks anything more than big zoos? Jeremy Cherfas investigates (Ceefax) (see Choice).
9.00 News with Julia Somerville.
9.25 Starsky and Hutch. Part one of the two-episode. The Set-Up, in which a seemingly stalwart citizen and his pregnant wife are the victims of an assassination attempt that leaves the wife dead (r) (part two tomorrow night).
10 15 Question Time: Sir Robin Day's panel consists of John Moore, Diana Warwick, Jeff Rooker and Jeremy Bullmore.
11 15 International Show Jumping. The Modern Alarms Turkey Stakes from the Grand Hall, Olympia.
12.05 Weather.
12.10 Newsnight By-Election Special. Analysis of the Enfield Southgate result. Ends approximately 1.15.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00: sport at 6.39 and 7.37; guests, Lynsey de Paul, Ted Rogers and Mary Quant, from 6.45; exercises at 6.46 and 9.20; the day's anniversaries at 6.51: Julian Lennon pop video at 7.54; film reviews at 8.34; ideas for Christmas decorations at 8.47; Rustie Lee at a market selecting Christmas bargains at 9.06.

ITV LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: History – the Red Tsar. 9.50 Junior Maths: following the paths of moving objects. 10.07 Tomorrow's People. 10.24 Physics: domestic electricity. 10.46 Physics: radioactivity. 11.08 Water
11.25 Heggerty Haggerty. George Cole with another story about the friendly witch. 11.35 Razzmatazz. Fun and games and pop music, presented by Alastair Pirrie and Zoe Brown.
12.00 Buttercup Buskers. Adventures of a troupe of small animals. 12.10 Mooncat and Co with guest Kenny Lynch. 12.30 The Sullivans.
1.00 News at One. 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston. 1.30 Falcon Crest. Drama serial about the struggle for control of a Californian wine business. Starring Jane Wyman.
2.30 Daytime. Sarah Kennedy chairs a studio discussion on a matter of topical importance.
3.00 University Challenge. University of St Andrews against Trinity College, Dublin. 3.25 Thames news headlines. 3.30 Sons and Daughters.
4.00 Buttercup Buskers. A repeat of the programme shown at noon 4.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 4.20 Stanley Bagshaw. Adventures of a boy who lives with his grandmother in a Yorkshire town.
4.30 First Post. Sue Robbie with another selection of viewers' letters about ITV's children's programmes. 4.45 Murphy's Mob 5.15 Blockbusters.
5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.
6.20 Thames Sport presented by Steve Rider who chooses his favourite sporting moments of 1984 which include Torvill and Dean winning the World Ice Dance Championship in Ottawa; and Nick Faldo winning Britain's first golfing title in the United States for more than a decade.
6.40 Crossroads.
7.00 Knight Rider. Michael Knight and his computerized, talking car, KITT, meet the indestructible KARR.
8.00 Never the Twain. Comedy starring Donald Sinden and Windsor Davies as antiques dealers, this week buying bucket-shop airline tickets to Canada in order to visit their children. But there is a snag.
8.30 Hotel. Drama series about the staff and guests of the luxurious St Gregory's Hotel in San Francisco.
9.30 TV Eye: The Young Ones. What is the government doing to help school leavers? Sir Alastair Burnet talks to Lord Young the Cabinet member with the brief to create jobs.
10.00 News at Ten followed by Thames news headlines.
10.30 Snooker. Dickie Davies is at the Derngate Centre, Northampton, where the defending champions, Steve Davis and Tony Meo, will be playing for a place in the semi-finals of the Hofmeister World Doubles Championship.
12.15 Night Thoughts from Dr Sheila Cassidy.

Peggy Lee in a tribute to Glenn Miller: Channel 4, 5.30 pm

CHOICE

● Asylum is a two-faced word: both something sought by refugees from systems of oppression and, in homes for the mentally ill, a synonym for a system of control. In ASYLUM (BBC2, 9.30 pm) – Witold Starcki's film for the hectically eclectic *Forty Minutes* documentary strand – the meanings twist and chafe. The Asylum at Choroszcz in North East Poland offers its "semi-cured" inmates the chance of asylum as (unpaid) labourers on farms – the result of an experimental 1930s form of occupational therapy. Three hundred (out of 1,500 present patients) have accepted and Starecki follows some of them. But Choroszcz – a sepia historical oversight where time, not content with standing still, has taken off its shoes and put its feet up – is itself an asylum from the urban, food queue, rage and riot Poland of the evening news. Jerzy Zielinski's drenchingly beautiful photography – hay carts, dray horses, figures at twilight – is like a painting becoming a play. An intensely memorable work.

● Who wants to be a millionaire? The queue must – after 13 weeks of COMMERCIAL BREAKS (BBC2, 8 pm) – be shortening. This week, in *The Battle For Santa's Software*, how to be an unemployed ex-whizz kid by the age of 23. Itself a bleak parody of a computer fantasy game, the programme follows the struggle for domination of the software world (worth £30 million in the months before Christmas) between two rival empires – Imagine (name from a Lennon song; 30-year-old employees called 'Grandad"; much skin cream, little aftershave) and Ocean (receding hairlines, spreading waists; the grit of experience).

● The irony of zoologist Jeremy Cherfas using television to fire poison darts at man's capacity to capture, cage and cull wildlife becomes clear in tonight's ZOO 2000 (BBC1, 8.30 pm). For it is the "I'm talking very quietly because there's a dodo just behind me" drama of TV safari footage which draws posses of "vultures" (Cherfas' word) to go native, in five-star comfort, where the buffalo roam and where the sky (from their side of the microscopic sights) is not cloudy all day.

Mark Lawson

BBC 2

9.00 Ceefax.
3.50 The Great Egg Race presented by Heinz Wolff. The teams have to build a projector and show a film. Before they begin their endeavours Doug and Anita Lear demonstrate how moving pictures were produced in the 19th century. The guest judge is Professor Ian Fells (r).
4.20 Top Sailing. Presenter Bob Fisher looks back at the highlights of the programme's five-year history and re-lives a number of memorable events.
4.55 Just Another Day. John Pitman, in the last of his series about British institutions that have become part of everyday life, is at Waterloo Station (r).
5.25 News summary with subtitles.
5.30 Sheridan Morley Meets ... Jeffrey Archer, once the youngest MP in the House then almost bankrupt and now a successful author with a string of best sellers to his name.
6.00 Film: Escape to Mindanao (1968) starring George Maharis, Nehemiah Persoff and Willi Koopman. A made-for-television drama about two American soldiers who break out of a Japanese prisoner of war camp in the Philippines taking with them a top secret coding device. Directed by Don McDougall.
7.30 Open Space: The Roots of Black Music. The first of two programmes celebrating black musical heritage. Among those writers, musicians and singers taking part are James Baldwin, Julio Finn, Gail Peters and the Eddie C. Cambell Blues Band.
8.00 Commercial Breaks: Battle for Santa's Software. The story of two computer companies as they strive to develop the best-selling computer game for the Christmas season. Imagine Software have their hopes pinned on Megagame while Ocean Software believe that Hunchback will be in most children's stockings (see Choice).
8.30 Food and Drink presented by Chris Kelly includes an examination of hospital food and a selection of top drinks for Christmas.
9.00 Entertainment USA. Jonathan King is in Key West, Florida, where he investigates the serious business of fantasy.
9.30 Forty Minutes: Asylum. A profile of the patients of Poland's Choroszcz Mental Hospital where they have the choice of either staying behind the barred windows of the institution or being adopted into the households of local peasants as unpaid farm labourers (see Choice).
10.10 Karen Kay. The last programme of the series and the entertainer's guest is singer/songwriter, Gerard Kenny.
10.40 Newsnight.
11.25 Open University: The Effective Manager: Meetings. Ends at 11.55.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Snooker: the Hofmeister World Doubles Championship. Quarterfinal action, introduced by Dickie Davies.
4.30 Countdown. The first quarterfinal of the fifth series of the fast-moving words and numbers contest.
5.00 Alice. George Burns makes a guest appearance at the Phoenix, Arizona, diner but Vera, his most fervent fan, has the day off. When she turns up unexpectedly and sees Burns being waited on hand and foot she decides to give up her job in order to devote her life to Burns who she believes is God, after seeing his film Oh, God! several times.
5.30 Glenn Miller: A Moonlight Serenade. A tribute to the legendary bandleader who disappeared 40 years ago this week on a flight across the Channel. There are clips from Miller's films and from home movies never before shown on television. Plus contributions from his friends and colleagues including Tex Beneke, Marion Hutton and Johnny Desmond.
7.00 Channel Four News with Peter Sissons.
7.50 Comment. With his view of a matter of topical importance is Malcolm Ryan, chairman of the British Youth Council.
8.00 India – The Alternative. The second and final programme on the state of India as it prepares to go the the polls after the assassination of Mrs Gandhi. Yesterday's programme profiled her successor and son, Rajiv. This evening members of the opposition parties and political commentators discuss what might happen if Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party fails to be re-elected.
8.30 Basketball. Semi-final second leg matches in the Kellogg's Cup. Both matches, Kingston v Manchester and Doncaster v Warrington will be shown live with cameras switching to one or other during the 'time-outs'.
9.30 Film on Four – Take 2: Moonlighting, starring Jeremy Irons. A black comedy about a group of Polish decorators, led by Irons, who travel to London, ostensibly to sight see and to do some shopping but in reality are over here to renovate the home of a wealthy countryman. It is December 1981, the time Poland's military rulers outlawed Solidarity and imposed martial law. Nowak (Irons) has to keep news of these developments from his colleagues. Directed by Jerzy Skolimowski (r).
11.20 The Wine Programme. The fifth programme of the series returns to Bordeaux; examines the various ways of buying wine; and investigates the seamier side of the wine business (r).
11.50 Soap. Jessica is held hostage by South American rebels.
12.20 Closedown.

Radio 4

On long wave. † stereo on VHF.
5.55 Shipping.
6.00 News briefing; Weather. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer For The Day.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News summary; 6.55, 7.55 Weather; 7.00, 8.00 News; 7.25, 8.25 Thought For The Day; 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament; 8.57 Weather; Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Taking Sides. An audience of 150 air their views about an issue which has almost faded from the headlines. (Simultaneous broadcast with BBC 1, Scotland.)
10.00 News; Medicine Now (r).
10.30 Morning Story: "The Ghost and Mr Pugh" by Marian Ververs.
10.45 Daily Service: The Walls of Jericho (NEM, page 118).†
11.00 News; Travel: This Thing Called Love. Laurie Taylor meets the fleeting, and the long-term, partners – on the road to enlightenment.
11.28 The Case Against God. Gerald Priestland's inquiry into the existence and character of God in eight parts (7) (r).
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Son of Cliché †; 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World At One: News.
1.40 The Archers; 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour. Includes Annie Allsebrook's camel safari in Africa.
3.00 The Afternoon Play: The Barbary Angel, by Sarah Maxwell. With Blain Fairman, and Claire Moore. Comedy about a priest in New York whose prayers for help to save a children's home is answered in a most unexpected way.†
4.00 News; Enquire Within. With Neil Landor.
4.10 Bookshelf.
4.40 Story Time: "The Woman in Black". A ghost story by Susan Hill. (4)
5.00 PM: News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast; 5.55 Weather.
6.00 The Six O'clock News: Financial Report.
6.30 My Word! A panel game, chaired by Michael O'Donnell (r).
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Any Answers?
7.40 The State of the Nation: England – The Economic Struggle.
9.00 Does he take Sugar? Magazine for the disabled listeners' and their families.
9.30 Glyn Worsnip in the BBC Sound Archives.
9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine.
10.15 A Book at Bedtime: "Mr Facey Romford's Hounds" by R. S. Surtees. Abridged in 15 parts. (14) The Beldon Ball. 10.29 Weather.
10.30 The World Tonight, including 11.0 News Headlines.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News: Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast.
VHF (available in England and S. Wales only) Radio 4 vhf is as above, except: 5.55-6.00am Weather; Travel. 11.00-12.00 For Schools: 11.00 Child Care (7 & 8). 11.30 Singing Games (4). 11.40 Drama Workshop. 1.55-3.00 For Schools: 1.55 Listening Corner. 2.00 Business French (Age 16-19) (1 & 2). 2.30 Books, Plays Poems (4). 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Joining in (5) Sticking Together

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: Purcell's The Gordian Knot untied (incidental music); John Thomas's Pensive and Joyous (Sioned Williams, harp); Leclair's Violin Concerto in D Op 10 No 3 (Jarry, violin); Beethoven's Wellington's Victory Op 91.† 8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Barber's overture The School for Scandal; Stravinsky's Dumbarton Oaks; Borodin's Symphony No2.† 9.00News.
9.05 This Week's Composer: Sibelius. Performances, on record, of The Bard Op 64; Luonnotar Op 70; and The Oceanides Op 73 (Valjakka, soprano); Six Humoresques for violin and orchestra, Op 87 Nos 1 and 2; Op 89 Nos 1-4 (Hornes/Berlin RSO under Handley).†
10.00 Scriabin's First Symphony: played by Frankurt Radio SO, with Franfurt Kantorei, Ewa Podles (contralto) and Fausto Tenzi (tenor).†
10.50 Piano Recital: Allan Sternfield plays Haydn's Sonata in A flat, H XV1 46; and Alkan's Symphonie Op 39, Nos 4-7.†
11.40 Two String Serenades: Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra (under Rolla, violin). Part one. Dvorak's Serenade in E.†
12.05 Six Continents: foreign radio broadcasts, monitored by the BBC.
12.25 String Serenades: part two. Tchaikovsky's Serenade in C.† 1.00 News.
1.05 Delmé String Quartet: Ravel's Quartet in F; Bridge's Three Novelleten, 1904; Sir Roger de Coverley.†
2.00 The Kiss: Smetana's two-act opera. Sung in Czech. With Brno Janacek Opera Chorus and Orchestra under Zdenek Janovsky. With Leo Marian Vodicka and Eva Depoltova. Act two at 3.10, with interval reading at 3.05.
4.05 L'Eclole d'Orphée: Leclair's Première recréation de musique Op 6 for two violins and continuo: Locatelli's Flute Sonata in G major Op 2 No 10; Tartini's Trio-Sonata No 8 in C major for flute, violin and continue. †4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: another of Geoffrey Norris's selections of music.
6.30 Bandstand: Desford Colliery Dowty Band play Gordon Langford's Prelude and Fugue; Thomas Wilson's Cartoons: and Butterworth's Three Impressions for brass. Conductor: Howard Snell. †
7.00 Barry Douglas: piano recital. Chopin works including the Scherzo No 3 in C Sharp minor; and Brahm's Variations and Fugue on a theme of Handel.
8.00 Ulster Orchestra (under Howard Williams). With Christian Blackshaw (piano). Cherubini's Concert Overture No 2 in B flat, Op 19: Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 2; Gerald Abraham's Symphony No 8 †.
9.30 Dallapiccola's 80th: Peter Cropper (violin) and Peter Hill (piano). Dallapiccola's Tartiniana seconda; Douglas Young's Song Without Words (In Memoriam Dallapiccola); and Dallapiccola's Due studie, 1947 †.
10.00 Music in Our Time: David Osmond-Smith introduces a programme of works by Aldo Clementi, Franco Donatoni and Camillo Togni †.
11.00 Piano Trios: Raphael Trio play Haydn's Trio in E major (H XV 28); and Dvorak's Trio in F minor Op 65 †.
11.57 News. Until 12.00.
MF (medium wave) as VHF above except: 7.05-11.15 am Cricket: Second Test. India v England – commentary from Delhi on the afternoon's play on the second day.

Radio 2

4.00am Colin Berry.† 5.30 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00pm Steve Jones.† 1.05 Sports Desk. 2.00 Gloria Hunniford.† 3.30 Music All The Way † 4.00 David Hamilton.† 6.00 John Dunn † including 6.30 The Fosdyke Saga (22). 6.45 Sport and Classified Results (mf only). 8.00 Wally Whyton (Earl Thomas Conley and The Judds in concert and Country Club). 9.55 Sports Desk 10.00 Radio Active with Helen Atkinson Wood and Angus Deayton. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. Anne Baxter talks to Marjorie Bilbow. 11.00 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight) 1.00am Bill Rennells presents Nightride † 3.00-4.00 Adolphus (Doc) Cheatham plays trumpet with The International All Stars †

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read 9.00 Simon Bates 12.00pm Gary Davies including. 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.30 Steve Wright. 5.00 Bruno Brookes including 5.30 Newsbeat. 7.30 Janice Long.† 10.00-12.00am Into the Music †
VHF Radios 1 & 2: 4.00am With Radio 2 10.00pm With Radio 1 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-Four Hours 7.30 Cole Porter And His Music. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Country Music Profile 8.30 John Peel 9.00 World News 9.09 Review of the British Press 9.15 The World Today 9.30 Financial News 9.40 Look Ahead 9.45 Monitor 10.00 News Summary 10.01 The Ideal Cast 10.30 Three Men In A Boat 11.00 World News 11.09 News About Britain 11.15 New Ideas 12.00 Radio Newsreel 12.15 Top Twenty 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-Four Hours 1.30 Network UK 1.45 Sackbuts And Sinfonias 2.00 Outlook 2.45 Juke Box Jury 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 The Pleasure's Yours 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Assignment 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News. 5.09 Meridian 8.00 World News 9.15 A Jolly Good Show 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10 45 Sports Roundup 11.00 World News 11 09 Commentary 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme 11.30 Meridian 12.00 World News. 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 The First Half Century 1 00 News Summary 1.01 Outlook 1.30 Not So Much A Hobby 1.45 Ulster Newsletter 1.50 In The Meantime 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 The Art Of Gerald Moore 2.30 Samuel Johnson 3.00 World News. 3.09 News About Britain 3 15 The World Today 3.30 Business Matters 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Country Music Profile 5 45 The World Today

(All times in GMT)

BBC 1 Wales: 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales headlines. 3.48-3.50 News of Wales headlines. 5.35-5.58 Wales Today. 6.30-7.20 Star Trek. 8.30-9.00 Week In Week Out. 11.15-11.45 Zoo 2000 (BBC-1 8.30pm). 11.45 Join BBC-1 International Show Jumping. 12.05-12.10am News and weather. Scotland: 12.57pm-1.00 The Scottish News. 6.30-6.55 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 Cause for Concern. 12.05am-12.10 News and weather. Northern Ireland: 12.57pm-1.00 Northern Ireland News. 3.48-3.50 Northern Ireland News. 6.30-6.55 Inside Ulster. 12.05am-12.10 News and weather. England: 6.30pm-6.55 Regional news magazines.

S4C 1.00 Countdown. 1.30 Alice. 2.00 Ffalabalam. 2.15 Interval. 2.30 International Snooker. 4.20 Black and White and Read All Over. 4.50 Ffalabalam. 5.00 Wil Cwac Cwac. 5.05 Y Gwylt. 5.30 The Mary Tyler Moore Show. 6.00 Brookside. 6.30 Teulu-Ffon. 8.05 Coleg. 8.35 Hapnod. News Headlines. 9.05 Performance. 10.35 India: The Crown Prince. 11.05 People to People. 12.00 Alfred Hitchcock presents: The Case of Mr Pelham. 12.25 Close.

TSW As London except: starts 9.25 Sesame Street. 10.25-12.00 Film: Doctor at Sea (Dirk Bogarde.) 1.20 TSW News Headlines. 1.30-2.30 The Love Boat. 5.15. Gus Honeybun's Magic Birthdays. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 Just Our Luck. 8.30-9.30 T. J. Hooker. 12.15am Postscript. 12.20 Weather. Close.

ANGLIA As London except: starts 9.25 Sesame Street. 10.25 Short Story Theatre. 10.50 Cartoon Time. 11.05 A Story of Tutankhamun. 11:55-12.00 Comic Stories. 1.20 Anglia News. 1.30-2.30 The Champions. 3.25-3.30 Anglia News. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 10.30 Folio. 11.00 Snooker. 12.15 Reflection, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

SCOTTISH As London except: starts 9.25 Sesame Street. 10.25 Asian Insights. 10.50 Little House on the Prairie. 11.45-12.00 The Harlem Globetrotters. 1.20 Scottish News. 1.30 Bodyline. 1.35 Country Practice. 2.30-3.30 The Protectors. 6.00 Scottish News and Scotland Today. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Take the High Road. 7.30-8.00 Police Squad. 10.30 Crime Desk. 10.35 Report. 11.05 Snooker. 12.15 Late Call. 12.20 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: starts 9.25 Once Upon a Time ... Man. 9.50 A Land, a Man, a God. 10.20-12.00 Film: The Magic Bow (Stewart Granger). 12.25 European Folk Tales. 12.40-1.00 Contact. 1.20 Central News. 1.30-2.30 The Champions. 3.25-3.30 News Headlines. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.25 Central News. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never The Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 12.15am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: starts 9.25 The Day Ahead followed by Sesame Street. 10.25 Island Wildlife. 11.15 Indian Legends of Canada. 11.40-12.00 Kum Kum. 1.20 Lunchtime. 1.30-2.30 Levkas Man. 3.30-4.00 Paint Along With Nancy. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.25 Police Six. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never the Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.00 Snooker. 12.10 News.

BORDER As London except: starts 9.25 Sesame Street. 10.25-12.00 Film: Doctor at Sea (Dirk Bogarde). 1.20 Border News. 1.30-2.30 Return of the Saint. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 6.00 Lookaround Thursday. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never the Twain. 9.00 The Bounder. 12.15am News summary. 12.18 Close.

HTV WEST As London except: starts 9.25 Home Cookery Club. 9.30 Sesame Street. 10.30 The Champions. 11.20 How We Know The Earth Moves 11.30-12.00 Home. 1.20 HTV News 1.30-2.30 A Country Practice 6.00-6.35 HTV News. 7.00-7.30 Knight Rider 8.30 Never the Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 10.30 Talk of the West. 11.00 Snooker. 12.15am Weather, close.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00-6.35 Wales At Six. 10.30-11.00 Wales This Week.

TVS As London except: starts 9.25 Holiday Time. 9.28 Sesame Street. 10.25 The Groovie Ghoulies. 10.50 Tales of Pom Pom. 11.00 Matt & Jenny 11.25 Mr Magoo. 11.30-12.00 The Hedgehog. 1.20 TVS News. 1.30-1.32 Afternoon Club. 3.00 Afternoon Club. 3.27 University Challenge. 5.12-5.15 News Headlines. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never the Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 12.15am Company, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: starts 9.25 Sesame Street. 10.25 Matt and Jenny on the Wilderness Trail. 10.45 Cartoon. 10.55 Great Western. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30 Levkas Man. 3.25 Granada Reports News. 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors. 6.00 This Is Your Right. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never The Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 12.15am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

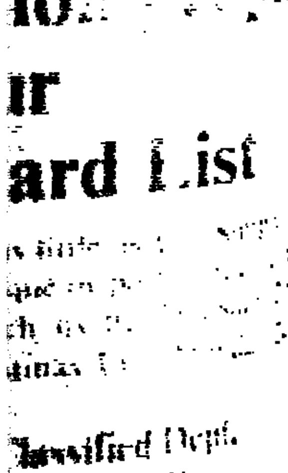
YORKSHIRE As London except: starts 9.25 Weather followed by Sesame Street 10.25 Country Rhapsody 10.35 The Adventures of Gulliver 11.00-12.00 Christmas at Pops. 12.30-1.00 Calendar Thursday. 1.20 Calendar News. 1.30-2.30 The Love Boat 6.00 Calender 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never The Twain 9.00-9.30 The Bounder 12.15 Closedown

CHANNEL As London except: starts 9.25 Chips 10.20 British Achievements 10.45 Island Wildlife. 11.40-12.00 The Little Brown Burro. 1.20 Channel News. 1.30-2.30 The Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 The Beverly Hillbillies. 6.00 Channel Report followed by: Growing Islands: From Cow to Covater. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 Jan & Steve. 8.30-9.30 T.J Hooker 10.30 Election '84: The Deputies. 11.00 Snooker 12.15 News and Weather in French, close.

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25* North East News. 9.30 Sesame Street. 10.25 The Nature of Things. 11.55 The Peterborough Country Music Festival. 11.35-12.00 Kum Kum. 1.20* North East News and Lookaround. 1.30-2.30 The Champions. 3.25*-3.30 North East News. 6.00* North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25* Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never The Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 12.15am Jesus Is Lord. 12.20 Closedown

GRAMPIAN As London except: starts 9.25 First Thing. 9.30 Sesame Street. 10.25 The Boast of Kings. 11.25-12.00 Harvest Jazz at Paul Masson. 1.20 North News. 1.30-2.30 A Country Practice. 6.00 North Tonight and Weather. 6.30 Police News. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Happy Days. 7.30 Knight Rider. 8.30 Never The Twain. 9.00-9.30 The Bounder. 10.30 Crann Tara. 11.00 Snooker. 12.15 News Headlines and Weather 12.20 Closedown.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.



also on page 26

First coal comes up from the Yorkshire seams

From Peter Davenport, Manton Colliery, Yorkshire

In the pit entrance road, pickets had strung coloured Christmas streamers in bare branches of a tree, but it was the National Coal Board that had reason for seasonal cheer as coal was brought to the surface at Manton colliery yesterday. It was the first coal to be produced in Yorkshire since the start of the pit strike.

The 200 tons cut by the day shift working the PO 1's face in the Parkgate seam may seem insignificant to a colliery that normally turns out about a million tons a year. But to the protagonists in the dispute, it was an important psychological development.

To the board, which also announced the resumption of production at a second Yorkshire pit, it was successful second stage in its campaign to build on the drift back to work, its importance evidence by elaborate publicity for the first day of production.

> The men have no belly for the strike any longer – worker

To the Manton strikers who have seen two-thirds of their number abandon the dispute, it was another body blow on a cold and fogbound morning.

But to the men cutting the coal 1,000 metres below ground, it was just a normal day's work.

Reg Hopcroft, his face still blackened with dust, was asked how he felt when the first nugget dropped on the conveyor belt taking coal to the surface. "I never thought about it", he said. "I was busy shovelling."

Mr Hopcroft was one of 2,986 out of the area's 54,000 workforce who crossed picket lines.

Preparation work to resume production at Manton began several weeks ago. Coal was also produced yesterday at the Riccall site in the Selby coalfield as a side product of driving new underground tunnels.

Coal board officials also expect Kellingley colliery, Britain's biggest pit, and Wistow, also in the Selby field, to resume production within weeks.

But it was at Manton that the Coal board concentrated its publicity efforts. The pit with a total workforce of just under 1,100 is in the board's south Yorkshire area although geogrphically it lies across the border in Nottinghamshire.

It is the workplace of the two miners who began the first legal actions to get the strike declared unofficial. Mr Kenneth Foulstone and Mr Robert Taylor return to the High Court today in new legal moves to have a receiver put in charge of the Yorkshire union's affairs.

Mr Foulstone was among the 420 day shift men at Manton yesterday and later he said: "Of course I am very pleased the lads have worked hard to get that coal. These men came back to work not because of intimidation or violence which had been used to keep them out, but under their own steam.

"They are not happy with Arthur Scargill's handling of the strike and I believe the mood in the country is that the guts have gone out of it and the men have no belly for the strike any longer.

But for most of the workers yesterday it was not a day for celerbration: they were simply back doing their jobs. But the presense of 10 police vehicles in the pit yard and the mesh protected coaches to take the miners home proved that life is still far from normal.

Manton has lost some 800,000 tons of coal production, valued at about £30m, since the strike began and the Yorkshire coalfield has lost 25 million tons.

The pit manager Mr Joe Armishaw, who spent much of yesterday morning underground, said: "Do I really need to say how I feel about restarting coal production? It is the reason we come to work, it is our normal job."

> It's disappointing... but it doesn't lessen our resolve – striker

But Mr Frank Underwood, treasurer of the local NUM branch, said: "Of course it's very disappointing that so many men have gone back and it was inevitable that sooner or later they would be able to start producing coal again. But it doesn't lesson our resolve to carry on."



Coal faces: Four Manton miners emerge after producing Yorkshire's first coal in nine months.



The prize: Underground workers bring up the first coals.

Thatcher backs BBC advertising

Continued from page 1

and suggested that the Government make social services departments responsible for paying for their licences.

"The licence fee is particularly good value for the elderly because they watch about 20 per cent more than average.

The corporation has asked for the rises, £46 to £65 for colour and £15 to £18 for black and white, to be pegged for three years.

The increase would pay for a modest extension of television and radio services, providing a low-cost daytine programme service on BBC 1, enhancing the quality of peak-time drama, entertainment, news and factual programmes, and build 10 new local radio stations.

Mr Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, said that the last settlement, which was £7 less than requested, meant the corporation had been unable to improve the range and quality of programmes, and narrow the gap between commercial television pay rates and its own.

Baby of 10 months gets pacemaker

Continued from page 1

A tincture of a steroid preparation was made to cover the tip of the wire and stop any fibrous rejective tissue developing round the area where contact with the heart was made.

The pacemaker, flown from the United States, works by sending a five-volt impulse to the heart.

Although programmed to operate at 90 pulses a minute, it only delivers an impulse if needed. For as well as stimulating the heart, the lead also monitors its activity and tells the microprocessor in the pacemaker if the heart misses a beat.

The instrument should last for five or six years, depending on how much demand is made upon it.

To allow for Serene's growth the lead going to the heart – the other one needed to complete a circuit is attacked to tissue close to the pacemaker – includes an extra loop that will stretch as she gets older.

Letter from Tripoli

Tough justice from the 'lord mayor'

Sheikh Saeed Shabaan is a loquacious man with a far farmer's face and the self-confidence of a lord mayor – which is, in effect, what he is. After all, his "Islamic Unification" militia controls almost all of Tripoli, its black and green banners snapping in the sea breeze above the customs house, above the post office, above the town hall, above every crossroads in town.

The sheikh's men helped burn the Lebanese flag on Independence Day. They have told the local Christian schools to teach the Koran to their Muslim pupils. They raise their own taxes around the port. And they administer some rather tough justice as well, kidnapping the occasional Christian, demanding – sometimes successfully – the execution of rival gunmen.

In short, the good burghers of Tripoli pay quite a lot of attention to Sheikh Saeed, for he is the sort of city father one disregards at one's peril.

His brown robes, grey beard and red and white turban give him a scholarly air. Indeed, he has an impressive academic curriculum vitae – Al Azhar University in Cairo, Lebanese University in Baghdad, visiting the shrine of Ali at Najaf and meeting Ayatollah Khomeini in Qum.

You might be forgiven for thinking Sheikh Saeed was a Shia Muslim but he is in fact a Sunni, leading a Sunni Muslim revolution that is unique in the Arab world even it it is restricted by the ring road that cuts through the eastern suburbs of Tripoli. Last month, he threatened to blow up bits of New York – especially the skyscrapers – because of United States support for Israel.

"I threatened the Americans, who came with the [battleship] New Jersey to shell our cities and villages and who killed Muslims," he says.

As for matters nearer home – the kidnapping of Christians, for example – the Sheikh is equally unapologetic. The Christian Phalangists to the South of Tripoli have been turning back Muslims from the city who wanted to visit Beirut. "The Phalangists kidnapped 40 people so we have detained 20 in two days in order to put pressure on the Phalange to release those who were kidnapped," he says. "Sixteen of the twenty are from the Lebanese Army and four are civilians – they are from areas where most people support the Phalange."

As for executions – why, the Sheikh's hands appear to be clean. Those unfortunates shot to death through the back of the head, he tells you, were responsible for a massacre in the suburb of Mallouleh, a mass killing in which Sunni Muslims met their death. It was the Pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party which shot their own men for the crime after the Sunni militia had requested their execution.

Indeed, justice seems close to Sheikh Saeed's heart. "Tripoli," he says, "is a town which believes in the rights of all its people because security and justice come from the very heart of Islam – to which we urge the people to adhere. The Christians live with us without any problems. They haven't been driven out of their homes as the Muslims were by the Phalange."

Father Anthony Shediyak, director of the Christian Antonin School just beside Tripoli's ancient port, has a different view of Islamic justic. Sheikh Saeed's militia have asked him, ever so politely, to teach the Koran.

"They are putting pressure on us to teach Islamic studies in our Christian schools," he says. "They told our leaders, 'Since you have Muslim students, you have to teach Islamic studies if you want to live in a Muslim town.' We received two letters from them . . . but we have not answered them."

In a city whose Muslims account for 85 per cent of the population, however, only 95 of Father Shediyak's 550 pupils are Christians. So perhaps Sheikh Saeed has a point. "But teachers are Christians – so how can we teach Islam?" Father Shediyak replies. "If the children want to learn the Koran, why don't they go to another school?"

And so Tripoli slips further into a miniature sectarian state. "The Christians have rights and duties like all other citizens," Sheikh Saeed says. "If they co-exist as good citizens, then we will stay the same. We have been neighbours for the past centuries. But if they change and start conspiring with the Phalange against us, then we will be obliged to treat them as our enemies."

Robert Fisk

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Prince Andrew attends the British charity premiere of the film *Dune* at the Empire Theatre, Leicester Sq, 7.50.

Princess Margaret, President, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, attends a charity evening at the Olympia International Showjumping Championships, 6.50.

Princess Alexandra attends a charity performance of *The Adventures of Robin Hood* in aid of the Mental Health Foundation, Wood Street Police Station, London, EC2, 6.50.

Music

Cello recital by Colin Carr, Holywell Music Room, Oxford, 8.

Concert by the Argyle String Quartet, Central United Reformed Church, Argyle St, Bath, 7.30.

Concert by the Medici String Quartet; Lancaster University, 7.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra; Colston Hall, Bristol, 7.30.

Christmas carols

King's School carol service; Canterbury Cathedral, 8.

Peter Symonds' College carol service; Winchester Cathedral, 7.

Carol concert by the Broadland Singers, St. Mary Magdalen Church, Norwich, 7.30.

Strathclyde University carol service with the University Chorus and Brass Ensemble; Glasgow Cathedral, 1.45.

Christmas concert by the Northern Sinfonia; Newcastle City Hall, 7.45.

Christmas concert by the Band of HM Royal Marines; St. David's Hall, Cardiff, 7.30.

Talks, lectures

Norway through the seasons, by Horace Baxter, Carnegie Hall, Westhoughton, Bolton, 7.30.

Art in Mexico, by Morris Grassie; Poldrate Mill, Haddington, Lothian, 8.

General

Christmas fair; Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh, 10 to 8.

Exhibitions in progress

Drawings by Franc Caucig, 1755-1828, Fitzwilliam Museum, University, Trumpingtons St, Cambridge, Tues to Sat 2 to 5, Sun 2.15 to 5. (ends Jan 27).

Paintings, drawings and photographs by Joan Eardley, City Art Centre, 2 Market St, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5. (ends Dec 15).

A Distant Prospect, aerial photography, Wakefield Museum, Wood St, Wakefield, Mon to Sat 10.30 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 5. (ends Dec 22).

Revitalizing Glasgow, People's Palace Museum, Glasgow Green, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5. (ends Dec 31).

Paintings by Helen Pollock, MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11 to 5. (ends Dec 21).

Theatre designs works by John Byrne, Maclaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11 to 5. (ends Jan 26).

Views of Stirling: Etchings by Mary-Louise Colouris, Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 40 Albert Place, Stirling, Wed to Sun 2 to 5. (ends Dec 30).

Illustrations of Antiquity, paintings and drawings of ancient cites and antiquites, Randolph Gallery, Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont St, Oxford, Tues to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4. (ends Jan 31).

Elements of Nature: Pictures of Earth, Air and Water, Elizabethan Exhibition Gallery, Brook St, Wakfield, Mon to Sat 10.30 to 12.30, and 1. 0 to 5. (ends Dec 22).

Tradition and Renewal: Contemporary art in the German Democratic Republic, Hatton Gallery, Newcastle University; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4.30; (until Jan 19).

Dinosaur Exhibition, Yorkshire Museum, Museum Gardens, York; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 1 to 5; (until Jan 6).

75th Anniversary exhibition, Museum and Art Gallery, Chequer Road, Doncaster; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until Jan 20).

Anniversaries

Births: William Drummond of Hawthornden, poet, Hawthornden, near Edinburgh, 1585; Heinrich Heine, poet, Dusseldorf, 1797.

Deaths: Donatello, sculptor, Florence 1466; Samuel Johnson, London, 1784; Wassily Kandinsky, abstract painter, Neuilly-sur-Seine, 1944.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,610

ACROSS
1 Method of quantifying gravel (8).
9 Command a military formation prominent in the press (8).
10 Fashionable surround for colonel's statue (4).
11 Old, true-sounding stories about a confirmation (12).
13 Poles on foot engage in contest on board (6).
14 Libertine unwilling to have a large port (8).
15 Harassed newspaperman forcibly enlisted (7).
16 Spend a long time on the journey (7).
20 Noted precision of supporting actors (8).
22 It's not often gunners display trust (6).
23 Quarrelsome old union leaders in various vessels (12).
25 Begin a voyage in Greater Manchester, say? (4).
26 Quote Lenin wrongly? Not in speaking persuasively (8).
27 Alumnus as acolyte, keeping an eye on things (8).

DOWN
2 No traces, possibly, of this old grandsire (8).
3 Recovering to study the fragrance of the valley (12).
4 Played by Lawrence, maybe, in flimsy clothing? (8).
5 Sharper's piece of equivocation, no doubt (7).
6 A degree for Gail, we hear, lucky thing! (6).
7 But he doesn't fly from Waikiki willingly (4).
8 Bleep a number all over the place for the tall thin chap (8).
12 Law-breaker upset strangers? So right (12).
15 He may talk down through being out of reach (8).
17 Where we may be landed to publicize wines (8).
18 Food substance or horse in ancient language? Quite the opposite (8).
19 Reminder of fellows in New York Opera's "Ring" (7).
21 One who scarpers from a shelter? (6).
24 Japanese drama satisfactory for the recess (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,609

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

New books – paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION
A Canticle for Leibowitz, by Walter Miller jun (Black Swan, £3.50).
Brand X Fiction, A Parody Anthology, edited by William Zaranka (Picador, £2.95).
Don Bueno, by Zulfikar Ghose (Black Swan £2.95).
Like Birds, Like Fishes, by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala (Granada, £1.95).

NON-FICTION
Black Lamb and Grey Falcon, by Rebecca West (Papermac, £8.95).
Brand X Poetry, A Parody Anthology, edited by William Zaranka (Picador, £2.95).
In My Mind's Eye, by Michael Redgrave (Coronet £2.50).
Seven Dada Manifestos and Lampisteries, by Tristan Tzara (John Calder, £3.95)
The Incredible Voyage, by Tristan Jones (Triad Panther, £2.50).
The Selected Letters of Anton Chekhov, translated by Sidonie K Lederer, edited by Lillian Hellman (Picador, £3.50).

PH

Roads

The Midlands: A461: Roadworks on Wood Green Rd at Wednesbury, S of junction 9 of M6. A12: Temporary signals between Lowestoft and Yoxford at Wrentham. A10: Temporary signals from Kings Lynn to Downham Market at West Winch.

Wales and West: A494: Temporary lights on the Dongellau to Bala Rd during working hours between Dollellau and Rhydymain. A394: Roadworks between Penryn and Helston, from Herniss to Rame.

The north: A1: Roadworks at Linkhall, North Charlton, N of Alnwick.

Scotland: A93: Roadworks in Main St, Bridgend between 9am and 4pm. City of Glasgow: Lane closures in Union St, between Gordon St and Argyle St.

Information supplied by the AA

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Local Government Bill, committee, second day.

Lords (3): Valerie Mary Hill and Alan Monk (Marriage Enabling) Bill, second reading. Debate on EEC finance.

Woodland report

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, in a new report, calls for a doubling of the amount of broadleaved woodland in Britain by planting trees on areas now producing surplus food.

It also calls for an immediate ban on the removal of woodland for farming or the replacement of broadleaved trees with conifers to protect wildlife. RSPB Report: *Broadleaves in Britain – the RSPB View*. Contact (0767) 80551 or (031 556 5624/9042).

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.465	1.395
Austria Sch	26.85	25.55
Belgium Fr	77.40	73.40
Canada $	1.633	1.563
Denmark Kr	13.78	13.08
Finland Mk	8.00	7.60
France Fr	11.72	11.17
Germany DM	3.82	3.64
Greece Dr	175.00	162.00
Hongkong $	9.75	9.15
Ireland Pt	1.24	1.18
Italy Lira	2340.00	2240.00
Japan Yen	310.00	294.00
Netherlands Gld	4.305	4.105
Norway Kr	11.08	10.58
Portugal Esc	210.00	200.00
South Africa Rd	2.31	2.15
Spain Pta	210.00	200.00
Sweden Kr	10.90	10.40
Switzerland Fr	3.165	3.015
USA $	1.24	1.18
Yugoslavia Dnr	320.00	300.00

Retail Price Index: 357.7.

London: The FT Index closed down 7.8 at 922.3.

The Papers

The Daily Star, commenting on rate capping, says: "When the Tories were first elected in 1970 their crusade against public spending was worthwhile, long overdue and popular. Carrying it on with little or no regard for the consequences is unjust and heartless"

The Sun, commenting on the decision by Nottinghamshire miners to vote to convert their own area into a quasi-independent union, says: "The Nottingham men believe that if they can't replace their militant masters with moderates, the only answer is to wave goodbye." The paper adds: "Let's hope that other moderate coalfields will follow Nottingham out of Scargill's crazy camp."

The Daily Mirror says: "There is a simple question the Tory faithful of Southgate should ask themselves before they go out to vote today. Why on earth should I vote Conservative?"

The paper adds: "In fact, there can hardly be a single person in Southgate who has any reason whatsoever to vote Tory today."

Forces' greetings

The latest recommended date for sending Christmas greetings to HM Forces in the South Atlantic and Northern Ireland via the special free aerogramme service is Friday, December 14. Further details and aerogramme forms are available on request at post offices.

Portfolio

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Weather

A depression to the W of Cornwall will move slowly N into S Ireland and a trough of low pressure will cross most areas from the SW.

London, SE, E, central N, NE England, East Anglia, E Midlands: Misty at first with a few fog patches chiefly over high ground; then rather cloudy with outbreaks of rain spreading from the W later; wind E or SE moderate increasing fresh; max temp 8C (46F).

Central S England, W Midlands: Misty at first; rather cloudy with rain in places; wind E or SE moderate or fresh; max temp 8C (46F).

Channel Islands, SW England: Mostly cloudy, rain at times; wind SE strong with gales in exposed places; max temp 10C (50F).

S, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mostly cloudy, rain in places; wind E or SE fresh or strong; max temp 9C (48F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Mostly dry, sunny intervals; wind S or SE moderate or fresh; max temp 7C (45F).

SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Cloudy with outbreaks of rain; wind SE moderate or fresh becoming E moderate; max temp 8C (45F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, a little rain in places; wind S or SE light or moderate; max temp 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Unsettled; night frost and some fog patches; near normal temperatures.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind S, veering SW fresh or strong; rain then showers; visibility moderate or poor, becoming good; sea moderate or rough. English Channel: Wind SW fresh or strong; showers; visibility mainly good; sea moderate or rough. St George's Channel: Wind cyclonic fresh, occasionally strong; showers, prolonged at times; visibility moderate or good; sea mainly moderate. Irish Sea: Wind E, becoming cyclonic fresh, occasionally strong; occasional rain; visibility moderate, locally poor; sea mainly moderate.

Sun rises: 7.58 am. Sun sets: 3.52 pm

Moon sets: 12.2 pm. Moon rises: 9.16 pm

Last quarter: December 15.

Lighting-up time

London 4.22 pm to 7.28 am
Bristol 4.31 pm to 7.39 am
Edinburgh 4.06 pm to 8.07 am
Manchester 4.18 pm to 7.48 am
Penzance 4.50 pm to 7.44 am

Yesterday

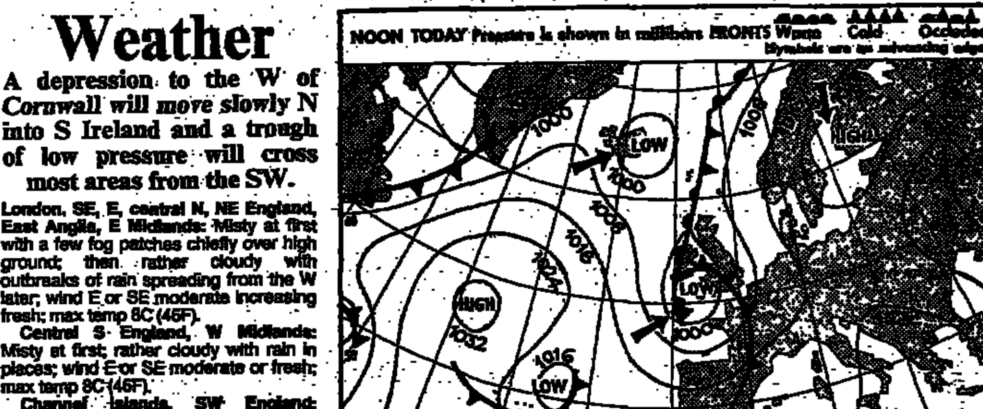
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloudy; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	8	46	Guernsey	c	6	43
Birmingham	f	3	37	Inverness	c	8	46
Blackpool	c	4	39	Jersey	f	3	41
Bristol	f	5	41	London	c	7	45
Cardiff	f	5	41	Manchester	c	4	39
Edinburgh	f	6	43	Newcastle	c	3	37
Glasgow	s	6	43	Ronaldsway	c	8	46

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Dishey 11C (52F); lowest day max: Finningley 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Machrihanish 0.94 in; highest sunshine: Eskdalemuir 2.8 hr.

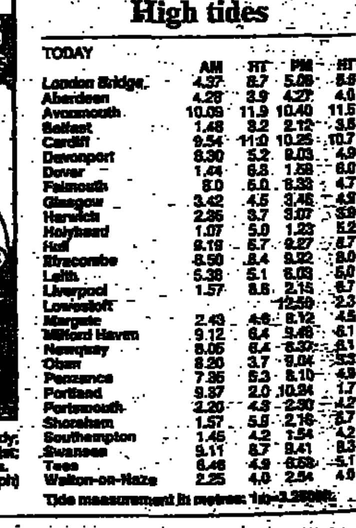
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b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled, temperatures fahrenheit.

High tides

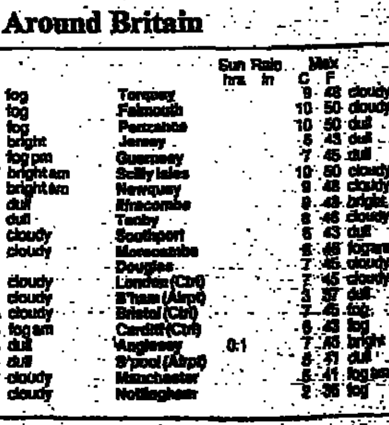


TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.37	6.7	5.08	6.6
Aberdeen	4.28	3.9	4.27	4.0
Avonmouth	10.09	11.9	10.40	11.5
Belfast	1.48	3.2	2.12	3.5
Cardiff	9.54	11.0	10.25	10.7
Devonport	8.30	5.2	9.03	4.9
Dover	1.44	6.8	1.58	6.0
Falmouth	8.0	5.0	8.32	4.7
Glasgow	3.42	4.5	3.46	4.9
Harwich	2.35	3.7	3.07	3.9
Holyhead	1.07	5.0	1.23	5.2
Hull	9.19	6.7	9.27	6.7
Ilfracombe	8.50	8.4	9.22	8.0
Leith	5.38	5.1	6.03	5.0
Liverpool	1.57	8.6	2.15	8.7
Lowestoft			12.59	2.3
Margate	2.43	4.6	3.12	4.5
Milford Haven	9.12	6.4	9.46	6.1
Newquay	8.05	6.4	8.37	6.1
Oban	8.20	3.7	9.04	3.3
Penzance	7.35	5.3	8.10	4.9
Portland	9.37	2.0	10.24	1.7
Portsmouth	2.20	4.3	2.30	4.2
Shoreham	1.57	5.8	2.16	5.7
Southampton	1.45	4.2	1.54	4.2
Swansea	9.11	8.7	9.41	8.3
Tees	6.46	4.9	6.58	5.1
Walton-on-Naze	2.25	4.0	2.54	4.0

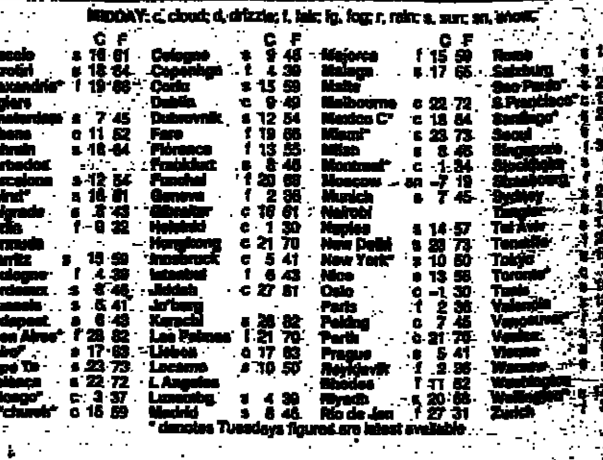
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain



	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro			6	43	fog	Torquay			9	48	cloudy
Bridlington			6	43	fog	Falmouth			10	50	cloudy
Cromer			7	45	fog	Penzance			10	50	dull
Lowestoft	1.4		9	48	bright	Jersey			6	43	dull
Clacton	2.2		9	48	fog pm	Guernsey			7	45	dull
Margate			8	46	bright am	Scilly Isles			10	50	cloudy
Folkestone	2.7		9	48	bright am	Newquay			9	48	cloudy
Hastings			9	48	dull	Ilfracombe			9	48	bright
Eastbourne			8	46	dull	Tenby			8	46	cloudy
Brighton			8	48	cloudy	Southport			6	43	dull
Worthing	0.7		9	48	cloudy	Morecambe			8	46	fog am
Littlehampton						Douglas			7	45	cloudy
Bognor R	1.0		9	48	cloudy	London (Ctr)			7	45	cloudy
Southsea	0.5		9	48	cloudy	B'ham (Airpt)			3	37	dull
Shanklin			8	46	cloudy	Bristol (Ctr)			7	45	fog
Bournemouth			7	45	fog am	Cardiff (Ctr)			6	43	fog
Poole			9	48	dull	Anglesey		0.1	7	45	bright
Swanage			8	48	dull	B'pool (Airpt)			5	41	dull
Weymouth			8	46	cloudy	Manchester			5	41	fog am
Exmouth			9	48	cloudy	Nottingham			2	36	fog

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	s	16	61	Cologne	s	9	48	Majorca	f	15	59	Rome	s	15	59
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Copenhagen	f	4	39	Malaga	s	17	63	Salzburg	s	8	46
Alexandria*	f	19	66	Corfu	s	15	59	Malta				Sao Paulo*	s	25	77
Algiers				Dublin	c	9	48	Melbourne	c	22	72	S Francisco*	c	12	54
Amsterdam	s	7	45	Dubrovnik	s	12	54	Mexico C*	c	18	64	Santiago*	s	27	81
Athens	c	11	52	Faro	f	19	66	Miami*	s	23	73	Seoul		8	46
Bahrain	s	18	64	Florence	f	13	55	Milan	s	8	46	Singapore		30	86
Barbados*				Frankfurt	s	8	46	Montreal*	c	-1	34	Stockholm	s	0	32
Barcelona	s	12	54	Funchal	f	20	68	Moscow	sn	-7	19	Strasbourg	f	1	34
Beirut*	s	16	61	Geneva	f	2	36	Munich	s	7	45	Sydney	s	29	84
Belgrade	s	6	43	Gibraltar	c	16	61	Nairobi				Tangier	s	15	59
Berlin	f	0	32	Helsinki	c	1	30	Naples	s	14	57	Tel Aviv	s	17	63
Bermuda	[illegible]			Hongkong	c	21	70	New Delhi	s	23	73	Tenerife	s	25	78
Biarritz	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Boulogne	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Bordeaux	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Brussels	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Budapest	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Buen Aires*	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Cairo*	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Cape Tn	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
C'blanca	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Chicago*	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			
Ch'church	[illegible]			[illegible]				[illegible]				[illegible]			

* denotes Tuesday's figures are latest available